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## FIRST MOVE.

### DRIVE AGAINST PEKING.

### NATIONALIST PREPARATIONS.

#### Troops Ordered To Proceed To Northern Front.

#### BROTHERLY FEELING BETWEEN FENG AND CHIANG CONTINUES.

No matter what opinion as to their chances may be, the Nationalist federation has made the first preparatory moves towards another drive against the Peking Government. Steamers have been requisitioned for transport service and troops have been given marching orders to proceed to the North China front.

That Peking's intention is to deal with Shansi province first and then concentrate on resistance to the Nationalist allies is evident from a series of reports given below.

As further evidence of their brotherly feeling, the "Christian General" is stated to have presented a thousand fur coats and two hundred ponies to Chiang Kai-shek, presumably for war service.

### SHANSI OFFENSIVE.

Shanghai, Yesterday.  
Mr. A. H. F. Edwardes (acting Inspector-General of Chinese Maritime Customs) is returning to Tientsin on Thursday afternoon on board the s.s. "Coblenz."

The Shanghai "Evening News" states that developments of the Nationalist conference at Kai-feng and confidence in the successful issue of the new offensive against the Peking Government, have decided the Nationalist Government to refuse to continue the negotiations with Mr. Edwardes on the proposals he advanced for a joint tariff conference.—Reuter.

#### What Is Inferred.

[Note: The Nationalists, although not registering strong opposition to the appointment of Mr. Edwardes, maintain that they have not "recognised" him. Popular opinion is that Mr. Edwardes proposed a joint tariff conference whereby both the Peking and the Nanking Nationalist Government might be satisfied in the disposal of Customs surpluses. Chiang Kai-shek went to Kai-feng to see his ally, the "Christian General," and they are reported to have decided on concrete plans for renewal of the offensive against Peking. It is this new offensive which the "Evening News" suggests as having caused the Nationalists to prefer a possible delay to their receiving a share of the Customs surplus, because they think that they will soon, by combined efforts, be able to subjugate Peking—and then take all the surplus.]

#### Warlike Preparations.

Shanghai, Yesterday.  
Movements of Nationalist troops along the lower course of the Yangtze River appear to indicate that the Nanking Nationalist authorities are preparing for renewal of their expedition against the armies of the Peking Government in North China.

It has been reported that a number of steamers owned by Chinese have been commandeered by the Nationalist military for the purpose of transport movements necessitated by renewal of the offensive. — British Naval Wireless.

#### What Happened Before.

Note: The number of Nationalist units at the front up the Tientsin-Pukow Railway is comparatively small, many detachments having been withdrawn to Nanking and other Yangtze points to cope with developments in the Nationalist fold. It is presumed that some of these detachments will now be sent up the Railway again to intensify the campaign.]

#### Following the Railways.

Considerable importance is attached to the conference at Kai-feng which concluded with Feng Yu-hsiang's presenting Chiang Kai-shek with a thousand fur coats and two hundred "special" ponies for use as chargers. The "Christian General" is reported to have ordered several of his divisions to the south of Chihli province for operations up the Peking-Hankow Railway. Chiang Kai-shek has given orders to the commanders of his three army groups to assemble along the Tientsin-Pukow Railway for an advance into Shantung province.

#### CONSIDERABLE STIR.

Nationalist Politicians Now On Tour.

Shanghai, Feb. 17.  
A considerable stir was created in Chinese Nationalist circles following the receipt of cables from India stating that the British authorities in India have refused to grant permission to the

# China Mail

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Hong Kong's Only European Optician.  
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(Personal Attention).



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### SHANSI OFFENSIVE.

Chiang Kai-shek's Nationalists will have the effect of drawing out the Peking units to defences on a long front.

To prevent such a possibility, the Peking leaders have suddenly attacked again in the north of Shansi province, the ruler of this (General Yen Hsi-shan) being an ally of the Nationalists.

General Chang Hsueh-liang (the son of Marshal Chang Tsao-lin) is stated by the "Kung Sheung Yat Po" to have ordered a division of Manchurian troops, his armoured train corps and his air force to mobilise for action in Shansi.

Split With Canton's Ally.

General Yen Hsi-shan is alleged to be seriously perturbed because of Peking's new offensive against him. One overnight cable goes so far as to say that his family has already arrived at Shanghai, ostensibly for safety. He has cabled the "Christian General" and Chiang Kai-shek asking them to attack immediately so as to relieve the pressure on him.

According to a Chinese source, Chiang Kai-shek intends to order General Pei Chung-hsi to transfer a part of his command, all the way up to Shansi, to assist Yen Hsi-shan. It is predicted that such an order will widen the breach between Chiang Kai-shek and Pei Chung-hsi. The latter is an ally of Canton and is now operating in Hunan province, in the south of Central China, independently of Nanking.

Then and Now.

Experts differ as to the outcome of this new offensive by the Nationalist federation against Peking. Some think that the Nationalists will win with ease. The "Evening News" report points to confidence in the Nationalist camp. Last summer, the Nanking army advanced to 400 miles south of Peking; after losing all their gains, the Nationalist forces are now near the most northerly point they ever reached.

Not so the "Christian General." He has been fighting consistently and gaining until his vanguard was within 300 miles of Peking. Then a supposed revolt in his rear caused him to withdraw.

#### REDS FORCED OUT.

Impossible To Carry On At Shanghai.

Shanghai, Yesterday.  
Extremists, agitators and Communist agents are preparing to leave Shanghai for Moscow. They are finding it impossible to carry on with their activities because many raids have been made on them in the International Settlement, the French Concession and in Chinese territory. — British Naval Wireless.

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### OUTLAW SHEIKH.

#### Bandits Cross Iraq Border.

#### THREAT TO KOWEIT.

British Flying Officer Killed In Operations.

Basra, Yesterday.  
The arrival of a messenger with a request for permission to trade otherwise, the Bedouin would take what they required at the edge of the sword has shifted the scene of Feisal Eddowish's exploits to Kowet, in the northwest corner of the Persian Gulf, which is now threatened by the outlaw sheikh with 600 Wahabi Camelry.

The messenger was sent back by the Sultan of Kowet, who defeated the raiders, and as the Sultan is subsidised by Britain, H.M.S. "Emerald," which bombarded Nanking in March last, arrived at Kowet, where the population is under arms. Meanwhile 2,000 Akhwan warriors crossed the Iraq border on February 20 and attacked an encampment at Jowarin, 60 miles south-west of Basra. The Akhwans lost 60 dead and 200 wounded. The Jowarin casualties were heavier and they lost all their cattle. Air Force machines from the base at Ur caught up and bombed, and severely punished the Akhwans. Flying Officer Rolf Jackson crashed in the desert and was killed in the course of operations.—Reuter.

#### CHEAPER RATES.

London, Yesterday.  
The Postmaster General foreshadowed a reduction in the rates of the trans-Atlantic telephone in a speech made in London this afternoon. He said a cheap service was not yet possible but he hoped it might be found possible to reduce the rate in the near future.—British Wireless Service.

#### Chinese Nationalist diplomatic commission to visit India.

The commission which departed from Shanghai on Jan. 25 is composed of Dr. C. C. Wu, former Minister of Foreign Affairs, Mr. Sun Fo, former Minister of Finance; and Mr. Hu Han-min, former chief of the Kuomintang political party. It is now travelling on the Dollar round-the-world steamer, "President Wilson," but intends to disembark at Colombo, thence travel overland across India, Afghanistan, Persia, Palestine, and Turkey; thence to Europe and the United States.

#### Nationalists Reticent.

The Nationalist Government here has not received advice from their commission regarding the official reasons for not visiting India, except a cable from Dr. C. C. Wu stating that the itinerary was suddenly changed and the party is going direct to Egypt, thence to Palestine, Turkey, Europe and America. The telegrams received from the Indian Nationalist circles including newspapers are expressing indignation, alleging that the British authorities became apprehensive following the attempt of the Chinese communists to assassinate Dr. C. C. Wu while the party was visiting Singapore last week.

Both the Chinese and Japanese papers are making much of the incident, the Japanese, stating that the British action in barring the Chinese party from India is likely to lend emphasis to the Pan-Asian movement. They call attention to the fact that the Chinese commission was not interfered with while visiting the Philippines. "Chicago Tribune" Service.

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### RULES OF THE SEA.

#### Maritime Law Anomalies.

#### SENATOR BORAH.

Senate Resolution Urges Codification Of Law.

Washington, Yesterday.  
Declaring that the present chaotic state of maritime law constitutes an incentive to great naval armaments, Senator Borah tabled in the Senate a resolution urging the re-statement and codification of the laws governing the conduct of belligerents and neutrals at sea in wartime.

The resolution declares that the leading maritime powers owe it to the cause of peace to effect such a re-statement prior to the meeting of the disarmament conference in 1931. Under the present conditions the seas are subject to no definite rules except force, and commerce to no ultimate protection except battle fleet.

Police Evidence.

At the continuance of the case this morning, evidence was given by police officers who took part in the chase of the robbers ashore (including Inspector Murphy, who was in charge of the police party).

Questioned by His Lordship as to the part played by the fourth prisoner whose boat had been used by the robbers in the transference of the cargo of pigs etc., from the captured junk and who was taken to the scene later by the police, witnesses said that he remained in the boat whilst the police landed and pursued the robbers. He had opportunity to escape if he had so wished.

Statements made by prisoners when first charged were read. The first prisoner said "I did not commit the robbery." Second prisoner said, "I came from Ping Ho. I did not commit a robbery." My boat left Ping Ho on January 25.

When we arrived at Pu Tai-ku the boat began leaking. I and another man then hired a boat." Third prisoner said "I did not commit a robbery." Fourth prisoner said "I am a native of Pu Tai-ku. My father, my two elder brothers and I work on a fishing junk. On the night in question I was the only person on board the boat and I was sleeping." The boat was on the beach. Some men came and pushed the boat into the water. They spoke Hakka dialect and I did not understand them very well. They said they wanted the boat to convey pigs. I refused and they struck me. I am a fisherman. I did not commit a robbery."

Didn't Mind Prison.

At the Magistracy, the first prisoner said "I have nothing much to say. I do not mind being sent to prison." The second and third prisoners made no statement. The fourth prisoner made a long statement amplifying his previous statement, stating that the robbers forced him to fetch his father to help with the transfer of the junk and the pigs were taken off and he was forced to take them to Shaukiwan where the pigs were landed and sold and prisoner was given some money. He was told to keep his mouth closed, or he would be killed. As he was on his way back to the boat he was stopped by a Chinese detective who took him to the Police Station where he made a full statement and subsequently did everything he could to help the police.

His Lordship commented that fourth prisoner had been extraordinarily consistent in his story right from the beginning and in this connection he reminded the jury that a statement made immediately after arrest carried more weight than one made afterwards. The service, which was of an impressive nature, was always associated with the Abbey. It was a great national and indeed international tribute.—British Wireless Service.

#### SIR MILES LAMPSON.

#### LEFT FOR MACAO THIS MORNING.

#### RECEPTION PROGRAMME.

Sir Miles Lampson, the British Minister at Peking, who is on a visit to Hong Kong, left for Macao this morning on board H.M.S. "Tarantula." He was expected to arrive at noon and, after a brief tour of the Portuguese Colony, was to attend a private luncheon at Government House as the guest of H.E. Senator Artur Tamagnini da Sousa Barrosa.

At 4 p.m. Sir Miles will visit Camoens' Grotto where he will pay respects to the Portuguese national bard. Tea will be served at Government House where the Governor of Macao has invited the small British community to meet Sir Miles.

Sir Miles will be entertained by the Chinese community at a reception at 6 p.m. in the Hotel Riviera. An official banquet will be given in Government House at half-past eight and Sir Miles leaves for Canton at eight to-morrow morning.

### 7 YEARS' HARD.

#### Sequel To Robbery On Junk.

#### 3 MEN SENTENCED.

Excused Cat In Absence Of Violence.

Three of the four prisoners charged with robbery of cargo and valuables from a junk which they were alleged to have taken possession of near Fu Tau Mun pass on January 25 were found guilty at the Criminal Sessions this morning and sentenced to seven years' hard labour. The fourth prisoner was found not guilty and was discharged.

The Chief Justice said he did not impose the "cat" as no violence to the men on the captured junk had been proved.

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Questioned by His Lordship as to the part played by the fourth prisoner whose boat had been used by the robbers in the transference of the cargo of pigs etc., from the captured junk and who was taken to the scene later by the police, witnesses said that he remained in the boat whilst the police landed and pursued the robbers. He had opportunity to escape if he had so wished.

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His Lordship commented that fourth prisoner had been extraordinarily consistent in his story right from the beginning and in this connection he reminded the jury that a statement made immediately after arrest carried more weight than one made afterwards.

Prisoners then made statements bearing out their previous ones. His Lordship then summed up and the jury returned their verdict.

#### OPIUM POISONING.

Suffering from opium poisoning stated to have been self administered, a Chinese was



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## PREMISES TO LET.

TO LET.—Nos. 4 & 5, Fung Fai Terrace, Happy Valley, European Flats with all modern Conveniences. Rental Moderate. Apply to The Wing On Co., Ltd.

## FOR SALE.

FOR SALE.—Four Show Cases in first-class order and condition; Glass sides and ends, removable plate glass shelves. Apply Box No. 530, c/o "China Mail."

FOR SALE.—Motor Car, 12 H.P., 4 seats, good condition. Owner leaving, would consider any offer. Apply Cie Optorg, Prince's Building.

FOR SALE.—One brass "Hung Ming" pan of the Chinese Han Dynasty, with automatic springs. Price \$1,000.00. Apply Box No. 487, c/o "China Mail."

## MISCELLANEOUS.

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WESTOVER — STEVENAGE. Within an hour from London. In healthy neighbourhood. SCHOOL for GIRLS and SMALL BOYS. A few Boarders received in the House of the Principal. Individual care and attention. For Particulars apply to:

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## PUBLIC AUCTION.

G. R.  
PUBLIC AUCTION.

PARTICULARS & CONDITIONS of the Sale by Public Auction to be held on MONDAY, the 27th day of February, 1928, at 3 p.m., at the Offices of the Public Works Department, by Order of His Excellency the Governor of one Lot of Crown Land at Shamshui Po in the Colony of Hong Kong, for a term of 75 years, commencing from 1st July 1898 with the option of renewal at a Crown Rent to be fixed by the Surveyor of His Majesty the King, for one further term of 24 years less three days.

## PARTICULARS OF THE LOT.

No. of Lot	Area in Hectares	Locality	Boundary Measure		Contant Bq. feet	Annual Rent	Open Price
			S.E.	N.W.			
1	New Kowloon Island	Auction of Crown Land Wanted	As per sale plan.	4,857	10	1,380.50	

## NOTICES.

## NOTICE.

M. C. L. ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING at 11 a.m. on the 23rd instant, in the HELENA INSTITUTE.

Hong Kong, 22nd February, 1928.

## HONG KONG &amp; TERRITORIAL ESTATES, LIMITED.

THE FOURTH ORDINARY ANNUAL MEETING of SHARE-HOLDERS in the Company will be held at the Office of the Company, "St. George's" Building, No. 7, Connaught Road, on FRIDAY, the 24th February, 1928, at 11 o'clock a.m. for the purpose of receiving a Statement of Accounts and the Report of the General Managers for the year ended 31st December, 1927, and electing a Consulting Committee and Auditors.

THE TRANSFER BOOKS of the Company will be CLOSED from THURSDAY, 16th February, 1928, until FRIDAY, the 24th February, 1928; both days inclusive.

SHEWAN, TOMES & CO.  
General Managers.  
Hong Kong, 15th Feb., 1928.

## LAMMERT BROS.

## AUCTIONEERS, APPRAISERS AND SURVEYORS.

## Public Auctions

THE Undersigned have received instructions to sell by Public Auction

ON

MONDAY, 27th February, 1928,  
commencing at 11 a.m.

at No. 5, Armond Building (Ground Floor), Kimberley Road, Kowloon.

A Large Quantity of  
VALUABLE HOUSEHOLD  
FURNITURE.

Comprising:—

Teak Hatstand, Chesterfield  
Couch and Chairs, Brass Fire  
Iron, Curtains, Carpets, Ornaments,  
Teak Extension Dining  
Table, Teak Chairs, Teak Side-  
board, Teak Dinner Waggon, Cutlery,  
Crockery, Teak Ice Chest, Teak  
Bedstead with Box Mattress, Teak  
Wardrobe with Bevelled Mirror  
Doors, Teak Dressing Table,  
Enamelled Bath, etc., etc.

Catalogues will be issued.

On view from Sunday, the 26th  
February, 1928.

Terms:—Cash on Delivery.  
LAMMERT BROS.  
Auctioneers  
Hong Kong, Feb. 21, 1928.

ON

MONDAY, 27th February, 1928,  
Commencing at 2.30 p.m.  
at their Sales Room, Duddell Street.

A Quantity of  
SILVER and PLATED WARE

Comprising:—

Prize Cups, Tea Pots, Trays,  
Manicure Sets, Inkstands, Dishes,  
Vases, Napkin Rings, etc., etc.

Also

Crystal Table Sets  
And

Several Pieces of Cut Glass.

On View from Monday After-

noon, the 27th February, 1928.

Terms:—Cash on Delivery.

LAMMERT BROS.  
Auctioneers  
Hong Kong 22nd Feb., 1928.

## ON

TUESDAY, 28th February, 1928,  
commencing at 2.45 p.m.  
at No. 25, Humphreys Building,  
Hanoi Road, Kowloon.

A Quantity of  
VALUABLE HOUSEHOLD  
FURNITURE.

(Particulars from Catalogue.)

On View from Monday After-

noon, the 27th February, 1928.

Terms:—Cash on Delivery.

LAMMERT BROS.  
Auctioneers  
Hong Kong, 21st Feb., 1928.

## Y.M.C.A. MEETING.

## MEMBERS URGED TO GET RECRUITS.

## ASSOCIATION'S FINANCES.

The Hon. Sir Henry Pollock, K.C., presided at yesterday's annual meeting of the European Young Men's Christian Association. He was supported by Mr. T. G. Weall (Vice-President) and Mr. Justice J. R. Wood.

Membership, said Sir Henry in his review, stood at:—328 ordinary, 33 active, 144 associate (resident in the Colony), 15 absent, and 126 non-resident (sea-going).

Considering the number of young men in the Colony, the membership should be higher, said Sir Henry, and he impressed upon members the duty of bringing in recruits. He paid a tribute to the work done by the Secretary and Assistant Secretaries.

## Debit Wiped Off.

Sir Henry quoted from the annual report, as follows:—

"The Building Account having been paid off, the Association is now free from debt and in possession of a small balance. In budgeting for 1928 the Directors are

following a constructive policy by providing for the erection of a motor-cycle garage, for the laying down of two cement tennis and basket-ball courts behind the building, and for the enclosure of part of the first floor verandah to increase the dining room accommodation; but already the upkeep of the premises and the replacement of household effects are serious considerations, and must be regarded as an annual charge, whilst in the future provision will have to be made for staff passages. This expenditure will absorb all the profit that is anticipated during the present year, and in order to provide for the eventual replacement of the building, or to ensure the realisation of its ultimate function by the addition of a gymnasium and a swimming bath and by the extension of its social amenities, it is clear that the present yearly profit must be at least maintained."

## Entertainment of Servicemen.

On the subject of finance, Sir Henry referred to the question of extra salary when either the Secretary or an Assistant Secretary went Home on leave and extra help needed then.

The President thanked all those who had helped to entertain Servicemen at the Naval and Military Y.M.C.A.'s, and said that the "Cheer 'O" and the one remaining Naval Y.M.C.A. would be transferred to the City Hall in about three months' time, by courtesy of the City Hall officials.

He wished Mr. J. L. McPherson, the recording secretary, a pleasant holiday on his departure early next month.

## The Red Triangle.

Mr. H. G. Swinburne suggested an editorial board to continue publication of "The Red Triangle" which was to be discontinued shortly. Sir Henry Pollock's opinion was that the publication had served a very excellent purpose. Mr. J. H. Hunt (the secretary) said that it had been found impossible to continue as the work had fallen on one man. If an editorial board could give hourly assistance further issues might be possible. At any rate, "The Red Triangle" was a good advertisement and it only cost about \$300 a year.

The matter was referred to the incoming committee.

Mr. Justice Wood, Mr. C. C. Hickling and the Hon. Mr. D. G. M. Barlow were re-elected directors.

Proposed by Mr. T. V. Harmon, a vote of thanks was passed to the directors for their services.

## POLICE RESERVE.

## CORPS ORDERS ISSUED FOR THE WEEK.

## CONSTABLE COMMENDED.

Hong Kong Police Reserve orders issued yesterday by the Hon. Mr. E. D. C. Wolfe, C.M.G., Captain Superintendent of Police, are as follow:

## Chinese Company.

Commendation—Constable R. S. T. C. Woo is commended by the Captain Superintendent of Police for valuable assistance given to the regular police in the recovery of stolen goods.

Training—Part I.—Those members of the Chinese Company who have not yet been passed out as efficient in Part I. will attend for Squad Drill and Rifle Exercises at the Central Police Station under Sergeant R. J. Hunt every Tuesday and Thursday until further notice, fall in at 5.30 p.m. sharp. Dress: Muff.

Flying Equad.—Training—Part I.—Members of the Flying Squad who have not yet been passed out as efficient in Part I. will attend for Squad Drill at the Central Police Station under Sergeant R. J. Hunt every Thursday at 5.30 p.m. sharp. Dress: Muff.

## Sharpshooters Company.

Revolver Instructions—Class This will be held at the office of the Officer-in-Charge, New Kowloon Station Building, every Monday at 5 p.m.

## INSECT PEST.

## CATERPILLAR QUESTIONS AT SANITARY BOARD.

## DANGER TO PINE TREES.

The prevalence of large numbers of caterpillars among the pine trees on the hills above Kowloon Tong was the subject of reference at the Sanitary Board yesterday when Mr. Eraaga asked what steps were being taken to prevent the spread of the pest and to protect the pine trees.

In reply, the President said:—

The subject of these questions is not one which concerns the Sanitary Department; but, as the matter is of public interest, I have been authorised to reply as follows:—

1.—No report has previously been made by the Botanical and Forestry Department to the Head of the Sanitary Department as to the collection and burying of caterpillars (the only known method of destroying them) are carried out and paid for by the Botanical and Forestry Department.

2.—Pine tree Caterpillars are at present prevalent in the Pine plantations in many parts of the Colony. The collection of the pest is at present being carried on at Fanling in comparatively young plantations from which seed is collected annually and which are therefore of more value than the older and partially exhausted trees in other plantations.

## A Pine Tree Taste.

3.—There is no danger (in the ordinary sense of the term) of the pest developing into a "caterpillar plague." This particular caterpillar (*eutricha punctata*) has never been known to damage any other than Pine trees. Vegetables, flowering plants and trees are therefore not likely to be damaged in any way.

The eggs of the pest are laid on Pine trees only.

4.—The collection and burying of the caterpillars in districts other than Fan Ling are being delayed for the following reason:—

## Entertainment of Servicemen.

On the subject of finance, Sir Henry referred to the question of extra salary when either the Secretary or an Assistant Secretary went Home on leave and extra help needed then.

Details of the cost of caterpillar collection during the year 1927 in Kowloon were then given and the President drew attention to the fact that nearly 6 tons were collected and destroyed.

Damage by caterpillars, continued the President, does not kill the Pine trees and the hills will therefore not be denuded.

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Proposed by Mr. T. V. Harmon, a vote of thanks was passed to the directors for their services.

## Colonel T. A. F. Robinson (commanding the Royal Artillery in South China) presided. He was supported by Capt. E. S.

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TANGO MARU ..... Wednesday, 21st March.

BOMBAY via Singapore, Penang, & Colombo.

+ MOJI MARU ..... Tuesday, 28th February.

SADO MARU ..... Saturday, 10th March.

SOUTH AMERICA (West Coast) via Japan, Honolulu, Los Angeles, Mexico & Panama.

ANJO MARU ..... Thursday, 15th March.

SOUTH AMERICA (East Coast) via Singapore, Cape Town & Porta.

KAWACHI MARU ..... Wednesday, 29th February.

NEW YORK and/or BOSTON via PANAMA.

+ TAKITOYO MARU ..... Saturday, 10th March.

LIVERPOOL via Singapore, Colombo, Port Said & Porta.

+ LYONE MARU ..... Saturday, 10th March.

CALCUTTA via SINGAPORE, PENANG & RANGOON.

+ YAMAGATA MARU ..... Friday, 2nd March.

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AKI MARU ..... Friday, 16th March.

SHANGHAI KOBE & YOKOHAMA.

+ LIMA MARU ..... Friday, 24th February.

+ TOYOHASHI MARU ..... Friday, 24th February.

+ NAGANO MARU (Maji direct) ..... Saturday, 25th February.

+ HAKODATE MARU (Maji direct) ..... Wednesday, 29th February.

SUWA MARU ..... Monday, 5th March.

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PAUL LECAT ..... 13th Mar.  
ANDRE LEBOU ..... 27th Mar.  
CHENONCEAUX ..... 10th Apr.

For Shanghai and Japan

PORTHOS ..... 28th Feb.  
PAUL LECAT ..... 13th Mar.  
ANDRE LEBOU ..... 27th Mar.  
CHENONCEAUX ..... 10th Apr.

For Marseilles

G. METZINGER ..... 28th Feb.  
SPHINX ..... 18th Mar.  
PAUL LECAT ..... 10th Apr.  
ANDRE LEBOU ..... 24th Apr.

For Rotterdam, Hamburg, Dunkirk

LT. ST. LOUBERT BIE  
(Cargo) ..... 4th Feb.

From Dunkirk, Antwerp, London

YALOU (Cargo) 28th Feb.  
D. P. BENOIT (Cargo) 24th Mar.

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China

YALOU (Cargo) 28th Feb.  
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THE BANK LINE, LTD.

## SHIPPING SECTION.

### LOCAL SHIPPING.

#### TO-DAY'S REPORT AND DEPARTURES.

#### THIS MORNING'S RETURN.

The arrivals of vessels recorded at the Harbour Office this morning (Feb. 22) are as follows:—4 British vessels; 4 Chinese and 4 Japanese vessels; 2 Norwegian vessels; 1 French and 1 Swedish vessel.

The cargo imported by the above number of vessels altogether total 13,471 tons, most of which is general merchandise. To this total, the 4 British vessels contributed 906 tons.

The through Hong Kong cargo tonnage amounts to 18,185 tons, 3,445 tons being shipped by British vessels.

Of these above figures, the best return for to-day is by the s.s. "Caravelles" (French) from Singapore, —M.M.—3,248 tons general cargo for Hong Kong.

The highest through cargo (for ports beyond) was recorded by the s.s. "Welhi" (Swedish) from Vladivostock, Shanghai, —Swaine & Hoyt—6,725 tons general cargo (through).

The passenger list for to-day is as follows:—630 Asiatic deck passengers; 41 European cabin Total 671.

The departure of vessels recorded to-day, altogether total 22 vessels, 8 British and 7 Chinese figuring prominently in the list.

#### Shipping Abstract.

In	Arrivals	Departures	Port.
British	4	8	22
Japanese	4	3	10
Norwegian	2	1	9
Chinese	4	7	13
French	1	1	2
American	0	1	0
Swedish	1	1	0
Dutch	0	0	5
Portuguese	0	0	2
Panama	0	0	1
	16	22	64

#### BURNT AT STONECUTTERS.

The Royal Naval Armament Depot state in a notification to the Harbour Master, that some unserviceable cordite will be burnt at Stonecutters Rifle Range on the morning of Friday next, 24th inst.

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S.S. "BEARPORT" ... Feb. 29

S.S. "WEST TOGUS" Mar. 17

S.S. "WEST FARALON" ..... Apr. 1

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### YANGTSZE RUN.

#### RETURNING TO NORMAL CONDITIONS.

#### FEWER SHIPS OPERATED.

A condition which may be described as approaching the normal on the Lower Yangtsze is indicated in the return to the old schedule of stopping at the minor non-Treaty ports between Shanghai and Hankow, by the China Navigation Co., and Indo-China S.N.C.

Since interruption of shipping, a year ago, ships belonging to these companies had been in the habit of stopping only at the Treaty ports on the run, and such minor ports as Anking (capital of Anhui), Tatung, etc., were not called at. With the resumed schedule, however, passengers only are taken on, and no cargo. In other respects, too, information gleaned from local shipping offices shows that the lower river service, from Shanghai to Hankow, is practically on its old status. It should be borne in mind, however, that not more than two-thirds of the usual number of ships operating upon this run are in use on the river at the present time, a statement which applies to shipping in general on the Lower Yangtsze.

Above Hankow—"Chaotic."

Of interest to travellers making frequent trips to Hankow is the recently installed service by the Indo-China S.N.C. of an "intermediate" class, which provides ample satisfaction at considerably reduced rates. One way fare to Hankow in the intermediate class cabin is now, \$35, or \$70 return passage, while a first-class cabin costs \$66 one way and \$100 for return.

If conditions on the lower part of the river are improving rapidly, the same cannot be said of middle and upper river conditions. Above Hankow the situation continues to be chaotic. About one-half the usual number of ships are in operation above Hankow to Ichang, and not more than one-fourth, if so many, on the upper reaches from Ichang to Chungking.

Convey Service.

A convoy service, instituted in December, is provided once a week for British ships making the run from Hankow to Ichang. While this has provided the necessary protection in the bandit-infested and disband soldier area, on this stretch of the Yangtsze free movements of ships naturally are restricted and this entails a consequent restriction of trade on the middle river. Moreover, trade in this area depends largely upon trade conditions on the upper river where it can be said that conditions are so chaotic as to make movement of cargoes practically nil.

Bandits.

Conditions at Shasi and vicinity are best described in the report of a representative of a local shipping company with bandits of the neighbourhood. The bandits' advice included the text of a letter received by him from this agent to reply forthwith to their demands as to how much silver it was the practice of his company to ship in their steamers from Shanghai to Hankow, in what ships was the alluring cargo to be found, together with dates of sailing and sundry items to enable them more easily to fall upon their coveted prey. Failure to comply with their naive request would, the bandits assured the agent, result in "spectacular" demonstration on their part.

As for the foreign gunboats, the bandits continued, they could be used to frighten the "people," but could not intimidate "fire," the latter presumably referring to the rifles of the signatory warlords.

Military Commandeering.

Details as to how the supply was to be sent, posted on a godown with a set of signals indicating the number of thousands of dollars in silver, which might be expected to arrive into their eager grasp, were also included in the letter for the agent's edification. With bandits of the foregoing kind on the rampage in this district, it needs no explanation to state that the important cotton trade at Shasi has come to a standstill, also. With reference to the upper Yangtsze, a report reaching Shanghai shows that during recent weeks, 16 steamers have been commandeered by the military for use as transport of troops and supplies.

Indiscriminate Usage.

Three of these ships are the property of the Yangtsze Rapids Steamship Co., the report states, and one of the ships, all of which were forced to make the run when the water was too low for their draft, had to be beached in consequence of this indiscriminate usage. Re-

### PIRATES IN NORTH.

#### TWO ENCOUNTERS WITH WARSHIPS.

#### JAPANESE SHIP RETAKEN.

Shanghai, Feb. 13.

Message reaching here from Tsingtao states:—Two Japanese warships "Taubak" and "Taushim" acting in concert with a Chinese gunboat, are now surrounding the "Kaitai Maru" which is in the hands of pirates.

The pirates threaten to kill all the Japanese sailors who are held as hostages, if the warships take vigorous measures. They are requesting the

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S. S.	Tons	From Hongkong About	Destination
MELLORE	6,653	28th Feb.	Marseilles & London
TAJINDIPORE	6,334	28th Feb.	Straits, Colombo & Bombay
MACEDEONIA	11,121	8th Mar.	Marseilles & London
TAJAPORE	6,623	7th Mar.	Straits, Colombo & Bombay
KHIVA	5,415	10th Mar.	Marseilles, London & Antwerp
KASHMIR	4,095	17th Mar.	Marseilles, London, Antwerp & Hull
IMIZAPORE	6,716	18th Mar.	Straits, Colombo & Bombay
KARMAALA	9,128	24th Mar.	Marseilles & London
MANTUAN	10,046	21st Mar.	Marseilles & London
KALYAN	9,144	7th Apr.	Marseilles, London & Antwerp
MONGOLIA	16,554	14th Apr.	Marseilles & London
TAJAGPORE	5,288	21st Apr.	Marseilles & London
MOREA	10,953	28th Apr.	Marseilles & London
KASHGAR	9,005	12th May	Marseilles, London & Antwerp
JEYPORE	5,318	19th May	Marseilles & London
MALWA	10,086	26th May	Marseilles & London
DELTA	8,097	9th June	Marseilles, London & Antwerp
NOVARA	6,989	16th June	Bombay, Marseilles & London
RANPUR	16,601	23rd June	Marseilles & London
KHYBER	9,114	7th July	Marseilles, London & Antwerp
NANKIN	7,056	14th July	Marseilles & London

\* Passengers to Singapore only. Limited accommodation available for 2nd class passengers from Hong Kong to London.  
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## BRITISH INDIA-APCAR SAILINGS.

TALAMBA	8,018	24th Feb.	Singapore, Penang & Calcutta
TILAWA	10,006	1st Mar.	Singapore, Penang & Calcutta
TAKLIMA	10,000	20th Mar.	Singapore, Penang & Calcutta
TAKLIMA	7,936	27th Mar.	Singapore, Penang & Calcutta

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## EASTERN & AUSTRALIAN SAILINGS (South)

ITANDA	6,956	1st Mar.	Mainland, Sandakan, Thurso, Island
ST. ALBANS	4,500	30th Mar.	Townsville, Brisbane, Sydney & Melbourne
ARAFURA	6,000	4th May	Holland

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The P. & O. Royal Mail steamers to London via Suez Canal.

The P. & O. Branch Service of steamers to London via the Cape.

The New Zealand Shipping Company's steamers for Southampton and London via Panama Canal.

## SAILINGS TO SHANGHAI & JAPAN

MIRZAPORE	6,715	24th Feb.	Moji & Kobe.
KALYAN	9,144	24th Feb.	Moji & Kobe
MONGOLIA	16,604	2nd Mar.	Shanghai, Kobe & Yokohama
TAKLIWA	7,036	2nd Mar.	Amoy, Shai, Moji, Kobe & Yokohama
ST. ALBANS	4,500	6th Mar.	Moji, Kobe, Osaka & Yokohama
SHIRATAKA	7,811	9th Mar.	Amoy, Moji, Kobe & Osaka
NAPOLEON	5,288	12th Mar.	Shanghai, Moji, Kobe & Yokohama
MATIJA	10,615	16th Mar.	Shanghai
LAHOPE	5,252	19th Mar.	Shanghai, Moji, Kobe & Yokohama
SANTHIA	7,754	21st Mar.	Amoy, Moji, Kobe & Yokohama
TAKADA	6,040	24th Mar.	Amoy, Moji, Kobe & Yokohama
MOREA	10,953	30th Mar.	Amoy, Moji, Kobe, Osaka & Y'hama
ARAFURA	6,000	3rd Apr.	Moji, Kobe, Osaka & Yokohama
JEYPORE	5,318	10th Apr.	Moji, Kobe & Yokohama
KASHGAR	9,005	13th Apr.	Moji, Moji, Kobe & Yokohama
MALWA	10,036	27th Apr.	Moji, Moji, Kobe & Yokohama
TANDA	6,956	8th May	Moji, Moji, Kobe & Yokohama
NOVARA	6,989	8th May	Moji, Moji, Kobe & Yokohama
DELTA	8,097	11th May	Moji, Moji, Kobe & Yokohama
RANPUR	16,601	25th May	Moji, Moji, Kobe & Yokohama
NANKIN	7,056	4th June	Moji, Moji, Kobe & Yokohama

\* Cargo only.

All dates are approximate and subject to alteration without notice.

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S.S. "CITY OF ADELAIDE"	Via Suez Canal	23rd Mar.
S.S. "IRHESUS"	Via Suez Canal	6th Apr.
S.S. "CITY OF DUNKEIK"	Via Suez Canal	20th Apr.

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## PASSENGER LISTS.

### ARRIVALS.

Passengers arrived at Hong Kong by the N.Y.K. "Hakone Maru" from London via ports on Feb. 20 included:-

Mr. and Mrs. C. F. Byram, Mr. L. J. Cass, Mr. and Mrs. Chan Seng-fatt, Mr. Chang Kong, Mr. J. Gillian, Miss C. M. Crawford, Mr. and Mrs. F. and Miss B. D'Almadae Castro, Mr. and Mrs. W. G. Goggin, Mr. A. G. Goy, Consul K. Larsen, Mr. and Mrs. G. W. R. Miller, Mr. J. L. Miller, Mr. F. R. Antaki, Mr. T. Asada, Mr. K. Azuma, Mr. Bang Jone-kong, Mr. T. Baty, Mr. and Mrs. S. Chida, Mr. T. Chiba, Mr. F. Chown, Mr. and Mrs. W. J. Crooks, Miss M. Ebbo, Mr. R. Furuta, Mrs. S. Hosoi, Mr. K. Ichimaru, Mr. C. Iida, Mr. S. Kano, Mrs. U. Kataoka, Mr. S. Kato, Mr. Y. Kawabata, Mr. A. Kawai, Mr. and Mrs. O. Kawamura, Mr. K. Kawasaki, Mrs. M. Kamiyama, Mr. and Mrs. A. Kestner, Mr. Lin Boon-hong, Mr. T. Makino, Mr. H. Miura, Mr. H. Moriya, Mr. S. Nakamura, Mrs. I. Oliveira, Mr. S. Ozaki, Mr. and Mrs. J. C. Plews, Mrs. Y. Shiosaki, Miss S. Stephane, Mr. M. H. Swaby, Mr. Y. Takada, Mr. G. F. Towers, Mr. Y. Yamina, Mr. S. Yamada, Mr. K. Watanabe, Mr. E. Yokoyama, Mrs. L. Westerdale.

Passengers arrived at Hong Kong on the N.Y.K. "Mishima Maru" from Japan on Feb. 22 included:-

Mr. K. Gohara, Mrs. K. Imamura, Mr. I. Nakazawa, Mr. K. Nishizawa, Mr. F. Ohmura, Mr. Y. Senda, Mr. M. Fujino, Mr. U. Hashimoto, Mr. H. Inouy, Mr. R. Kitai, Mr. J. Morimura, Mr. I. Mizuta, Mr. O. Mitsumine, Miss D. Magee, Mr. S. Nagata, Mr. C. Nakamura, Mr. Y. Ohtani, Mr. V. Rico, Mr. K. Suzuki, Mr. K. Yokoyama, Mrs. T. Yokoyma, Mr. K. Yoshimura, Mr. T. Yabe, Mrs. T. Yabe, Mr. G. Chibana, Mr. C. Damno, Mr. H. Hirose, Mr. K. Kiritani, Mrs. K. Kido, Mr. K. Kubota, Mrs. K. Okuda, Mrs. F. R. La Sage, Mrs. S. Yuasa.

### DEPARTURES.

Passengers sailed from Hong Kong by the N.Y.K. "Hakone Maru" for Japan via Shanghai on Feb. 20 included:-

Mr. S. Kinoshita, Mr. and Mrs. Wong Kam-fuk, Miss Wong, Mr. A. Kawai, Mr. S. Yamada, Mr. N. Tang, Mr. J. W. Norton, Mr. T. Baty, Mr. K. Watanabe, Mrs. J. Miss and Mrs. Oliveirs, Mr. T. Hosoi, Mr. Lew Marks, Mr. Y. Kaneko, Mr. S. Kato, Mr. S. Kano, Miss E. S. Stoerl, Mrs. L. Westerdale, Mr. L. J. Robinson, Mr. K. H. Aumuller, Mr. E. Yokoyama, Capt. S. Moriya, Mr. F. Atkinson, Mr. S. V. Cornes, Mrs. H. Yamaguchi, Miss M. Kobayashi, Mr. and Mrs. A. Kestner, Miss W. Dalle, Miss E. Lancaster, Mrs. C. Uemura, Miss K. D'Arcy, Miss C. Leslie, Mr. and Mrs. O. Kawamura, the Misses L. and C. Lovett Flint, Miss E. Ray, Miss V. Blackburne, Miss E. Stoller, Miss V. Towzer, Miss R. Russell, Miss B. Osborne, Mr. J. Hagan, Mr. H. E. Smith, Mr. M. Peltzer, Mr. and Mrs. J. A. Plews, Miss E. Page, Mr. and Mrs. T. Mazaki, Mr. T. Makino, Mr. R. Furuta, Mr. K. Kawasaki, Mr. R. Minami, Mr. Kikkawa, Miss A. J. Hutchinson, Mr. L. J. Robinson, Mr. K. H. Aumuller, Mr. E. Yokoyama, Capt. S. Moriya, Mr. F. Atkinson, Mr. S. V. Cornes, Mrs. H. Yamaguchi, Miss M. Kobayashi, Mr. and Mrs. A. Kestner, Miss W. Dalle, Miss E. Lancaster, Mrs. C. Uemura, Miss K. D'Arcy, Miss C. Leslie, Mr. and Mrs. O. Kawamura, the Misses L. and C. Lovett Flint, Miss E. Ray, Miss V. Blackburne, Miss E. Stoller, Miss V. Towzer, Miss R. Russell, Miss B. Osborne, Mr. J. Hagan, Mr. H. E. Smith, Mr. M. Peltzer, Mr. and Mrs. J. A. Plews, Miss E. Page, Mr. and Mrs. T. Mazaki, Mr. T. Makino, Mr. R. Furuta, Mr. K. Kawasaki, Mr. R. Minami, Mr. Kikkawa, Miss A. J. Hutchinson, Mr. L. J. Robinson, Mr. K. H. Aumuller, Mr. E. Yokoyama, Capt. S. Moriya, Mr. F. Atkinson, Mr. S. V. Cornes, Mrs. H. Yamaguchi, Miss M. Kobayashi, Mr. and Mrs. A. Kestner, Miss W. Dalle, Miss E. Lancaster, Mrs. C. Uemura, Miss K. D'Arcy, Miss C. Leslie, Mr. and Mrs. O. Kawamura, the Misses L. and C. Lovett Flint, Miss E. Ray, Miss V. Blackburne, Miss E. Stoller, Miss V. Towzer, Miss R. Russell, Miss B. Osborne, Mr. J. Hagan, Mr. H. E. Smith, Mr. M. Peltzer, Mr. and Mrs. J. A. Plews, Miss E. Page, Mr. and Mrs. T. Mazaki, Mr. T. Makino, Mr. R. Furuta, Mr. K

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Hong Kong, Wednesday, Feb. 22, 1928.

**THE PEACE PROBLEM.**

Out of all the peace talk at Geneva and Washington and Paris comes little, sad to confess, which may be regarded as a real solution of the problem of the amicability of international relations. The proposal for a local security pact as a sort of supplementary guarantee to those nations which consider the League's covenant inadequate seems a sound one, and has indeed been accorded the full support of the head of the British delegation, Lord Cuschendun. It is, however, only a temporary salve to the blister under which certain of the Powers are fighting for "peace" decisions strictly according to ideas of their own, but if the application of it will prevent the spread of the rash of discontent and non-co-operation a good purpose will have been served.

With the Soviet proposals little can be attempted. They call for complete disarmament within four years, which is as absurd as calling for it within forty years. The Council of the League will, we imagine, find difficulty in effectively dealing with the Russian plan when it comes up for consideration next month, but have only themselves to blame for their present predicament. The Soviet was repeatedly asked, almost pressed, to submit its views on disarmament, and has done so with a vengeance. The proposals will no doubt receive an amount of attention when the time for their consideration arrives and, with luck, will then be quietly pigeon-holed, a facile process at Geneva. Then there is the Franco-American pact, the en-

gineering of which has been done without the intervention or assistance of the League. This is a purely domestic arrangement and does not at this stage come within the ordinary paths of

peace discussions, though it may be remembered that the American Note of December 28 was open to the interpretation that Mr. Kellogg, after completing a pact with France, was willing that this draft of a declaration against war (for that is what it amounts to) should be submitted for the signature of the principal Powers.

All peace moves, individual and concerted, however, are as much in the air at the present as they were a year ago. Of conferences and draft agreements there have been a large number and out of them some good, if nothing definite, has eventuated. Much, also, has been learned about this subject of "peace," a subject which has occasioned considerable loose talking and writing. It has been discovered, for one thing, that it is unreasonable (to use no stronger term) to speak of "outlawing" war. The expression is a high-sounding one and fell easily out of the mouths of politicians and others; also, unfortunately, its reiteration gave it a certain value in public minds. But now it seems to be understood that war, while it may be prevented in some instances by co-operation among disinterested Powers, can never be outlawed. General comprehension in this direction will undoubtedly lead to a fuller appreciation of the gigantic problem of world peace.

**Local Crime Waves.**  
Psychologists may think differently but we suggest that the series of periodical crime waves in this Colony are due in the main to slackness in certain directions and also to the factor of supply and demand. Take, for instance, the very recent thefts of telephone wire for which at least one offender had paid the penalty. Did he develop a sudden liking for wire? We think that he accidentally found out that wires could be easily stolen and then inquired if there was a market for such. A good many years ago, a hue and cry was raised because valuable dogs were stolen in dozens and ultimately traced to Canton. There was no maniac who had a kink for dog collecting. It just happened that dogs, fetched a good price in Canton and thieves did their best—or their worst—to steal as many canine pets as they could. Not so long ago there was the "epidemic" of hat snatches from richas. Felt hats were not more valuable then than they are now. The motor-

ous Peak-burglar may still be remembered. His breaking into Peak homes may have been indirectly encouraged by the lack of vigilance. The criminal mind is always difficult to analyse but, in Hong Kong at least, the type of lawbreaker referred to is unlikely to contribute anything towards the study of psychology.

## MARKET STALLS.

(Continued From Page 1.)

### Disparity of Rents.

In the fifth paragraph a striking example of the disparity of rents is given. I quote the report. "For example, in the Central Market the rents paid for stalls selling Pork range from \$1 a month to \$38.60." Happy is the licensee who has been permitted to hold his licence, probably, under the "hereditary system," for ever so long against his competitor who pays into the Treasury 38 times as much for the same privilege. A pertinent question might be asked has the \$1 licensee been selling his pork at any less price than the \$38 man? If so, what has been the difference in the prices?

Apparently, the "hereditary system" is to continue, for the report states:—"All rentals above the average—i.e., \$10—have been left undisturbed. In most cases the latter are the most recent figures obtained at open auction and they rest therefore on an economic basis."

From the "red" book of rentals circulated to Members I find that all holders of beef stall licenses are those who have held their licences since May 1, 1911, with one exception only. The only change took place in 1916, nearly 12 years ago. The rental figures have remained constant at \$15 as the minimum and \$40 as the maximum. The report offers no satisfactory explanation for this wide variation.

Similarly with the fruit stalls. Excepting a solitary change on February 9, 1912, the licensees are the same as those on May 1, 1911, that is, 17 years ago. As with the beef stalls the rents have been constant, viz., \$15 as the minimum rent and \$35 as the maximum.

### Sub-Letting Profits.

In a letter dated December 10 to the President Dr. Ho expressed himself as opposed to the system the Government is practising, or at any rate, tolerating, of the sub-leasing of a stall by the original licensee at an enormous rental. He saw no reason why the Government should not have that much added revenue instead of throwing it over to a man who is too lazy to conduct his own business. Dr. Ho makes a good case against the sub-leasing of stalls for profit, and yet the report makes no recommendation against this system of profiteering.

Among the signatories to the report two names appear of members who strongly advocate assistance to New Territories farmers and agriculturists. Yet it is disappointing to see that neither put forward any recommendation whereby produce growers in the New Territories might be given greater facilities for the disposal of their produce in the markets of Hong Kong and Kowloon. It is fair to Dr. S. C. Ho to state that he wrote to the H. S. D. urging strongly the claims of the New Territories people, and it is strange that his recommendation was not embodied in the report.

I will vote against the resolution.

**Dr. Ho On Food Prices.**  
Dr. Ho also spoke on the evils of sub-leasing and hoped the Government would devise some system to put a check to it. Of what use is it to hold Agricultural Shows and offer greater incentives to the farmers to grow more and better vegetables if the Government was not going to grant greater facilities to dispose of their products to the inhabitants of the Colony?

Dr. Ho also said he was inclined to disagree that the adjustment of the rents of market stalls would reduce the price of food and he thought the remedy lay solely in the question of how and where sufficient quantities of foodstuffs could be obtained.

In reply, the President of the Board pointed out that sub-leasing was strictly prohibited and they would be glad for an instance of it to be brought to their notice, if such a practice existed. Regarding the position of farmers and agriculturists in the New Territories, the President pointed out that the power of assisting these people was not with the Board.

The Chairman concluded by saying that he considered the proposal perfectly fair that the rentals should be readjusted. If a stallholder felt that he was being asked too much, he could remedy the matter by giving up his stall, which would be at once placed on public tender, and, perhaps, the stallholder might get it back for less.

The report was adopted, Mr. Braga being the only dissentient.

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## MME. VERVIER.

SPLENDID PICTURE AT  
THE QUEEN'S.

### "LITTLE FRENCH GIRL."

In "The Little French Girl" the management of the Queen's Theatre have secured a remarkable picture, and the film is worthy of all the success that was accorded the book of the same name which appeared a year or so ago. In the picture Alice Joyce acts more superbly than she ever has before. Her characterisation of the famous (or infamous—according to your way of looking at things) Madame Vervier, one of the best known (or notorious—again according to your way of looking at things) women of Paris, is a splendid achievement, full of power yet full of restraint.

The pretty and equally talented Mary Brian has to play a secondary role as the Madame's daughter, Alix, who gives the title to the story itself is a good one and is well unfolded. It starts with a young British officer's fascination by Madame during the War. He is killed and, in accordance with his last wish, the little French girl, Alix, is sent to his mother in England. Here she lives the life of a country gentlewoman and is caught in a net of circumstances with which her mother is concerned.

But—not even at the end—does she realise who and what the beautiful woman she left in Paris really was. When the truth was literally thrown in her face, she would not believe it. "My mother might have been wrong," she says, "but she was never bad."

But this picturisation of a child's sublime faith does not provide the main trend of the story, which has more to do with the little French girl's love affair with a Viscount and her own, personal love for the dead officer's brother. Both the men it appears, were infatuated with an English girl called Topple, a part admirably played by Esther Ralston. With the death of the one, the other pressed his suit. The girl, however, prefers to enter a convent, thus leaving the way clear for the little French girl. Madame again enters the story before it is closed, and gives an opportunity for an interest-gripping curtain.

There is an excellent Hal Roach "Our Gang" comedy in the programme, as well as a Pathé Pictorial gazette of particular interest to English patrons, especially those who love the countryside.

## ATTACK ON AMAH.

MISSION WORKER'S HOUSE  
ENTERED.

### KOWLOON ROBBER SENTENCED

Convicted of having attacked with violence an amah in the employ of Mr. M. A. Grant, living at Saikung Road, Kowloon City, and of having stolen \$10, a Chinese, Leung Fong-pak, was sentenced at the Criminal Sessions this morning to two years with hard labour for using violence and six months' hard for the larceny.

Evidence was given that Mr. Grant and his family left the house on Christmas Eve to go to the branch of the Mission with which Mr. Grant was connected at Mongkok. During their absence there was a knock on the door and the amah who was left in charge asking who was there, a voice replied that he had been sent by Mrs. Grant for her Bible, which had been left behind. The amah searched fruitlessly for the Bible and eventually admitted the man who offered to help her search. The man then grappled with the amah and a severe struggle ensued. The man having obtained the amah and a severe struggle ensued.

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Prisoner, who admitted taking the money but denied the assault with violence, said when charged that he needed the money to take him back to the country. He had no weapon and could not have committed violence.

### FINED FOR SWEARING.

Before Major C. Willson at the Central Magistracy this morning, a coolie woman was fined \$15 for using obscene language towards Police Sergeant Jessop in Robinson Road yesterday.

A wireless set and a gramophone were among the supplies taken to the inhabitants of the lonely island of Tristan Da Cunha in the South Atlantic by the Canadian Pacific liner "Empress of France" when she left Southampton.

## P'RAPS-P'RAPS NOW!

An Irish Archbishop had been staying at a West Coast seaside resort. When leaving he wrote in the visitors' book:—

"I came here for a change and a rest—the waiter has the change and the landlord the rest!"

"What do you think of that artist who painted cobwebs on his ceiling so realistically that the housemaid wore herself into a state of nervous prostration trying to brush them off?"

"There may have been such an artist, but never such a housemaid."

"Do you act towards your wife as you did before you married her?"

"Exactly. I remember just how I acted when I first fell in love with her. I used to hang over the fence in front of her house and gaze at her shadow on the curtain—almost afraid to go in. And I act just the same way now when I get home late."

"Ever been sick?" the insurance agent asked him.

"No."

"Any disease?"

"No."

"How old was your father when he died?"

"Hundred and four."

"Did he die a natural death?"

"No, he fell off his 'bike' going to work."

Visitor: "Double-bedded room, please."

Hotel Clerk: "But your telegram said a single-bedded room."

Visitor: "That's so, guy; but I find a single bed isn't quite wide enough to press my trousers!"

Postman: "Bad luck, I'm afraid, Mr. Doolan! Here's a black-edged letter for you."

Doolan (glancing at letter): "It's me poor brother Pat dead. Old know his handwriting anywhere."

"People who drink too much coffee," said the teacher, "get what is known as coffee heart, and men who use too much tobacco get much tobacco heart tobacco heart."

The oldest pupil frantically waved his hand.

"Well, what is it, Herbert?" the teacher asked, pleased by his unusual display of interest.

"What I want to know is this," Herbert burst out. "If a lad eats lots of sweets will he get a sweet heart?"

A young man, a guest at a dinner given recently, remarked to a man near him:—

"Blasted nuisance, isn't it? Spoke to that fellow over there—took him for a gentleman—and found he had a ribbon in his coat. The confounded head waiter, I suppose?"

"Oh, no," replied the other. "That is the guest

**A "FRANCOPHILE"?**

GERMAN PRESS FEARS EASED.

SIR WM. TYRRELL.

London, Yesterday.

The apprehensions expressed in the German Press with regard to the appointment of Sir William Tyrrell, the new Ambassador to Paris, on the ground that he is a Francophile and likely to pursue an anti-German policy, are controverted in an official German statement pointing out that Sir W. Tyrrell is one of the creators of the Locarno policy, and that his appointment may be assumed as evidence of Great Britain's sincere desire to carry out this policy in a manner free of any one-sided and especially anti-German tendency.—Reuter.

**WATER RECORD.**

NAPIER ENGINE FOR SPEED TEST.

London, Yesterday.

It was stated that the remarkable Napier engine used in Flight Lieutenant Webster's seaplane which won the Schneider Trophy air race in September, and in which Captain Campbell's car has just raced at Daytona, the world's speed record on land, is to be given a third task of gaining the world's speed record on water.

The engine will be adapted to the motor boat which will be driven by the Englishwoman, Miss Cartairs. The present motorboat record is 80.56 miles an hour. The Napier engine has twelve cylinders arranged in three rows in the form of a broad arrow and although it only weighs 850 lbs, it gives 875 horse power. Its compression ratio is almost ten to one and it is regarded as the most highly developed engine in existence.—British Wireless Service.

**BINDING.**

GERMAN METAL TRADE ARBITRATION.

Berlin, Yesterday.

The Minister of Labour has declared that the arbitrators' award in the metal dispute is binding.—Reuter.

**LOCKOUT POSTPONED.**

The metal manufacturers have adopted the Ministry's decision and postponed the lockout until February 29 on condition that the strikers resume immediately and that the metal workers throughout Germany accept the five pfennings per hour increase involved in the award.—Reuter.

**SIR GEORGE MILNE.**

PROMOTED TO RANK OF FIELD-MARSHAL.

London, Yesterday.

Sir George Milne has been promoted to the rank of Field Marshal.—Reuter.

[General Sir George Milne, G.C.M.G., G.C.B., D.S.O., has been Chief of the Imperial General Staff from February 1926. He entered the Army in 1886, and had wide war experience. He commanded Constantinople, 1919-20 and was Lieutenant of the Tower of London, 1920-1923. The new Field Marshal is 61 years of age.]

**MEXICAN RAILWAYS.**

APPOINTMENT OF BRITON RECOMMENDED.

Battle Creek (Michigan), Yesterday.

Sir Henry Thornton, President of the Canadian National Railways, who visited Mexico to advise the Mexican Government on railway matters, announced that he recommended President Calles to appoint R. A. Henry President of the Mexican National Railway system.

Mr. Henry is an official of the Canadian National Railways.—Reuter.

**IN PRIVATE.**

CABLE AND WIRELESS DELIBERATIONS.

London, Yesterday.

In the House of Commons, in reply to questions, Mr. Baldwin said the Imperial cable-and-wireless conference was not yet finished and it was impossible at present to make a statement as to whether the recommendations would be presented to Parliament before adoption. The issues involved are such that it is obviously in the public interests that discussions should be private.—Reuter.

**TOOK NO NOTICE.**

LIVING IN CONDEMNED HOUSE.

OCCUPANT FINED.

**AFTER HOURS.**

HOTEL MANAGEMENT FINED.

AMERICAN TOURISTS.

At the Central Magistracy this morning, Chan Kwan-sung was summoned before Major C. Willson by Sanitary Inspector Strange to cease using the ground floor of No. 4, Tung Lai Lane for habitation in contravention of Section 208 of Ordinance No. 1 of 1903.

It was stated that an order was made by the Magistrate on March 30, 1927 for the floor to be closed for habitation, but apparently the order had been disregarded, thus necessitating the fresh summons.

Mr. C. A. S. Russ who appeared for Chan told the Magistrate that they were not refusing to obey the Magistrate's order, but he had come to Court to inquire if it were not possible to have the case re-opened. Chan was not legally represented when the order was made and did not know sufficient to place his position before the Court. Mr. Russ suggested that perhaps if the case was re-opened, the order be reconsidered.

Major Willson said that Mr. Russ's application for re-opening of the case was out of time. It should have been made within seven days of the making of the order.

The Magistrate imposed a fine of \$25 and made a fresh order.

**MODERN MUSIC.**

STRAVINSKY'S "RIPPING NOISES."

The difficulty experienced by one generation in appreciating the aspirations of its predecessors was urged as one of the most important reasons for the application of history to music by Dr. P. C. Buck in a lecture to members of the Music Masters' Association and the Incorporated Society of Musicians at Whitehall Room.

There were millions of people in the world who liked music, he said, but the number of them who were musicians could be counted in thousands. The difference was not that the musicians could pay well and that the others could not. If they analysed it down to its lowest terms a person became a musician when he acquired discrimination, and as soon as they began to see in a piece of music what it was that its composer was trying to get down and how far he succeeded in doing so, then they became musicians.

The ordinary person who looked on music as something which gave him a pleasant sensation down his backbone found it extraordinarily difficult to believe that his appreciation would be greater if he took what the philosophers called the genetic view.

What a person without any knowledge of music enjoyed most was the notes, but that was not the part of music that mattered most.

The things to search for were the human qualities of the creator that were embodied in it, and these varied in form with every age.

Until they knew the exact position of technique in any period they could not know what the composer was trying to express in his works.

**CRUDE AND HIDEOUS.**  
So few people realised that every-thing, at some period of time, was modern; were it not so there could be no history. Things which to-day seemed so crude and hideous that it was difficult to understand how people ever tolerated them, when they were written were the last word in human beauty, and really meant at the time exactly what the music of our time means to us. "I don't suppose we ever dream that things are going to be more modern than our time," observed Dr. Buck, "but the time will come a thousand years hence when people will say of the Meistersinger Overture, 'It is impossible to think how anybody ever thought that beautiful.' Then along will come a man with an historical sense who will reconstruct it according to the aspirations of the period in which it was created, and those who can apply history to music will enjoy it. If you want to understand the work of any man you must stand in his shoes. You must try to edge away from these days of aeroplanes and cinemas, and put yourselves back into that period and try to see what those masterpieces meant to human beings at the time they were composed."

Mr. Henry Coward, in the discussion which followed, said music, as he understood it, should express beauty, but much of what passed for music to-day—he did not mean jazz, that was not worth troubling about—to his mind could not be called beautiful, nor did it sound nice. Were they to admire that because it expressed the feelings of the times?

Dr. Buck said he found, as Sir Henry Coward had found that there was an enormous lot he did not understand in modern music, but that the next generation found in it

**RACE TICKETS.**

CHARGES AGAINST LOCAL SOLDIERS.

ALLEGED MULTILATION.

The manager of the Fung Shan Hotel was fined \$25 before Mr. R. E. Lindsell at the Central Magistracy this morning for selling and allowing liquor to be drunk on the premises after closing time.

Mr. E. Davidson (defending) said the defendant was only guilty of a technical offence. The hotel, he said, did not or was not meant to cater for Europeans, but at midnight on the evening in question the two American tourists came in to change some money and ordered drinks at the bar, and although this should be refused as the hotel only had an adjunct licence, the bar boy who was not accustomed to deal with Europeans was afraid to refuse, and thinking that he could best get rid of the Americans by serving them the drink they wanted, he did so. However, instead of taking the drinks and leaving the Americans lingered on.

**SIX MONTHS.**

CHINESE WHO PLEADED GUILTY.

Remanded last week on a charge of larceny as a servant of \$6,000, the property of a local Chinese firm, a Chinese who pleaded "guilty" came up before Major C. Willson at the Central Magistracy this morning for sentence.

This adjournment was given at the last hearing on the application of Mr. M. K. Lo (for the defence) who reported that \$3,000 of the missing money had been recovered, and there was a possibility of more being returned to the complainants if time was allowed.

This morning, Mr. Lo informed the Magistrate that the balance of \$3,000 the accused had sent to the country and the people now refused to return it. In the circumstances he would leave the matter entirely in his Worship's hands what sentence to pass on the accused.

He would like to state however, that the accused was paid only \$5 per month by the complainants whilst in their employ, and also in view of the fact that this was the accused's first offence, Mr. Lo suggested that he could be dealt with leniently.

The Magistrate passed sentence of six months' hard labour.

MR. HARRY ORE.

PROGRAMME FOR PIANOFORTE RECITAL.

Mr. Harry Ore (at the piano), assisted by Miss E. Dunbar (soprano), is giving a recital at 9.30 p.m. on Friday at "Multnomah," No. 2, May Road, the residence of Mr. L. Dunbar.

The programme will be as follows:

(Piano)—First Movement of XVIII-Sonata, Second Movement of XVIII-Sonata, Scotch Steps, Turkish Patrol—L. van Beethoven.

Miss Dunbar—My Mother bids me bind my Hair—Haydn; Die Kraehe (The Raven)—Schubert; Invocazione di Orfeo—Peri.

(Piano)—Kreisleriana No. 1 From Strange Countries and People, Scherzino, Final March from "Caraval"—Schumann.

Miss Dunbar—Four Modern American Songs—When I go alone, A. Buzz—Peccia; The Bird of the Wilderness, E. Horner; The Player Queen, J. A. Carpenter; April Ecstasy, W. Reddick.

(Piano)—Gavotte de Valentini, Berceuse and Gavotte Op. 12, Three Chinese Airs transcribed (1) Prelude, (2) The Two Butterflies, (3) Gold Dust shaken from the Willow-tree—H. Ore. Eleven Hungarian Rhapsody—Liszt.

Mr. W. Cannon, of Milton Road, West Hendon, N.W., was knocked down by one motor-car and run over by another in Edgware Road, near the Hyde, Hendon, and died in hospital from his injuries.

The Middlesex magistrate has decided to ask the Commissioner of Police to reply to allegations of police inefficiency made by Sir Herbert Nield, K.C., M.P., and other residents of Bishop-Avenue, Hampstead, in neglecting to prevent improper conduct by couples in motor-cars at night.

something satisfying. Their whole outlook was different because they had not been brought up to respect the things which the older generation was taught to respect. "I don't think that after a certain age man, however young he may have kept himself, can give a really impartial verdict on anything that has come after his time," said Dr. Buck. "I am quite certain," he added, "that the stuff Sir Henry Coward and I don't like to-day will be as simple as A.B.C. in fifty years' time." Even now, I can hear some rippling noises in Stravinsky." (Laughter.)

**Shadows Before.**

COMING EVENTS ANNOUNCED IN THE "MAIL."

To-day—Queen's Theatre; "The Little French Girl," 7.15 and 9.20 p.m.

To-day—Star Theatre; "The Bat."

To-day—World Theatre; "Tumbloweeda."

To-day—Music recital at Helena Mar Institute, 5.30 p.m.

To-day and February 27—Sixth Dancing display by Miss Violet Capell's Pupils, Queen's Theatre; 5 p.m.

To-day—Whist drive and dance at Seamen's Institute, 8.30 p.m.

February 23-25—Queen's Theatre; "Lovers."

February 23-25—Star Theatre; "The Road To Yesterday."

February 23-25—World Theatre; "Alters of Desire."

February 24—Cheer 'O' dance at City Hall, 8.30 p.m.

February 25—Craignegower Cricket Club's annual Bachelors' Dance.

February 29—Star Theatre; Dancing display by the Pupils of Miss V. Capell, 9.15 p.m.

Sports.

To-day—H.K. Hockey Club 1st XI v. 1st Batt. Queen's Regt., U.S.R.C., 5 p.m.

To-day—Whist drive at the Cheer 'O, Y.M.C.A., Chater Rd., 7.30 p.m.

February 25—First Extra Race Meeting, Happy Valley.

March 3—"American" lawn tennis tourney (mixed doubles) for members of the Ladies' Recreation Club, 2.30 p.m.

March 3—Fauing Hunt steeple-chases (Spring meeting).

March 11—Sixth extra race meeting of Macao Race Club.

March 14—Ninth bi-annual race for ship's life boats ("Trevessa" Trophy) starting at 4 p.m.

Lammer's Auctions.

February 27—At 6, Arment Bldg., (Ground Floor), Kimberley Rd., Kowloon, valuable household furniture, 11 a.m.

February 27—At Sales Room, Duddell Street, Silver and plated ware, 2.30 p.m.

February 28—At 25 Humphreys Bldg., Hanover Rd., Kowloon, household furniture, 2.45 p.m.

Hughes &amp; Hough's Auction.

March 1—At Auction Room, Ice House Street, valuable household property situated in Peak District, 3 p.m.

Meetings.

To-day—Meeting of Hong Kong Automobile Association at Messrs. Jardine's, 6.30 p.m.

February 24—Fourth annual meeting of shareholders in the Hong Kong and Territorial Estates, Ltd., at St. George's Bldg., 7 Connaught Rd., 11 a.m.

February 24—Annual meeting of seat holders of the Union Church, Kennedy Rd., 5.30 p.m.

February 25—Ordinary yearly meeting of shareholders in the Hong Kong &amp; Shanghai Corporation, at City Hall, noon.

February 27—The Hong Kong Tramways Limited, hold yearly meeting at Messrs. Jardine's offices at noon.

February 29—Forty-first annual meeting of the H.K. &amp; K. Wh. &amp; Godown Co., Ltd., Messrs. Jardine's, noon.

Miscellaneous.

February 23—Annual Show of flowers and vegetables at Volunteer Headquarters.

February 24—Pianoforte Recital by Mr. Harry Ore, at "Multnomah" No. 2, May Rd., 9.30 p.m.

February 28—Sir Shou-son Chow and Hon. Dr. R. H. Kotewall entertain Sir Miles Lampson, K.C.M.G., in Chinese Merchants Club.

March 1—Annual dinner of members of St. David's Society, Lane, Crawford's Restaurant, 8 p.m.

March 28—Annual Inspection of Hong Kong Police Force by H.E. The Governor.

Messrs. William Willett Ltd., of Sloane-Square, S.W., state that they have for disposal the freehold of the Dyke Estate, the beauty spot near Brighton.

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19 Wyndham Street,  
Hong Kong.

36 Nathan Road,  
Kowloon.

### LOCAL AND GENERAL SOCIAL AND PERSONAL.

Mr. Kan Tong-po, of the Bank of East Asia, left Hong Kong to-day on a business trip to Shanghai, sailing on the "President Jackson."

The only case of notifiable disease reported to the Medical Officer of Health on Monday was that of a Chinese from the Kowloon district with small-pox.

Mr. A. L. Barton (of Messrs. E. D. Sassoon & Co.) and Mrs. Barton were passengers on the "President Jackson," which sailed from Hong Kong to-day for Shanghai.

Mr. A. Brostedt, who is traffic agent in the Orient for the Canadian National Railways, left Hong Kong to-day on the "President Jackson" to go to Shanghai.

Among the passengers on the N.Y.K. "Mishima Maru" which arrived to-day from Japan and Shanghai were Miss D. Magee, Mr. V. Rico, Mr. and Mrs. F. R. La Sage.

There will be a "Cheer O Y.M.C.A. Dance," at the City Hall on Friday next at 8.30 p.m. Tickets \$1, ladies by invitation. The "Lyric Dance Orchestra" will be in attendance. This dance is "for service men only."

Mr. G. W. R. Miller (of Messrs. Patterson, Barker & Co., Ltd., Singapore) and Mrs. Miller are going to England via America. They sailed from Hong Kong to-day on the "President Jackson," which is bound for Seattle.

The 5.15 p.m. cinema performance will not be given in the Queen's Theatre to-day, as Miss Violet Capell's pupils are giving a dancing display at 5 p.m. The 2.30, 7.15 and 9.20 picture programmes will be given as usual.

A flower and vegetable stall presented by residents, fancy work and edibles made by members, and a British-American Tobacco Co.'s cigarette stall were the features of a successful annual sale of work held by the Hong Kong branch of the Mothers' Union at the Helena May Institute yesterday afternoon.

Mr. L. D. Turner, of Messrs. Johnson, Stokes & Master, who defended in the "schoolboy manslaughter" case at the Magistrate and instructed Mr. F. C. Jenkins at the Criminal Sessions (when defendant was discharged), left the Colony to-day to spend a month's holiday at Tsingtao, in North China.

London, Feb. 21.—The House of Commons yesterday sanctioned a vote in the supplementary estimates for the purchase of a site and the erection of the British Embassy at Rio de Janeiro. It is expected that the cost this year will be \$26,000 and that the estimated total cost will be \$80,000.—British Wireless Service.

The annual inspection of the Hong Kong Police Force will be held on March 28, by H.E. the Governor (Sir Cecil Clementi). The Hong Kong Police Reserve will participate in the parade. In all probability the inspection will take place on the Murray Parade ground instead of in the Central Police Station compound.

In connection with the departure of Commander G. B. Hartford, D.S.O., R.N. (retired), a group photograph of the Hong Kong Police Reserve was taken yesterday. Commdr. Hartford has been adjutant of the Police Reserve since its formation, and on Monday he will entertain the Police Reserve to tea at the Hotel Savoy, when a farewell address and presentation will be made to him.

No case of notifiable disease was reported in the Colony yesterday.

Mr. Robert Ballay, a director of the British-American Tobacco Co. Shanghai, left Hong Kong to-day on the "President Jackson" after a short stay in the Colony.

Mr. R. D. Gillespie and Mr. P. Fowler (of Messrs. Brunner, Mond & Co., Ltd.), with Mrs. Fowler, sailed from Hong Kong to-day on the "President Jackson" for Shanghai.

Mr. F. A. (Eric) Pollock, of Messrs. Jardine, Matheson & Co., Ltd., one of the best jockeys in Hong Kong, left the Colony to-day for Shanghai on the "President Jackson."

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Mr. W. T. Stanton of Messrs. L. Dunbar & Co. left the Colony to-day on the s.s. "Hector." He is to spend a few months' holiday and will then return to Hong Kong. Mr. Stanton has been hon. secretary of the Polo Club and is an ardent rider on the flat and in steeple-chases.



PRINCESS MARY

Princess Mary, Viscountess Lascelles, in evening gown and wearing some of her magnificent jewels. The Princess is the only daughter of King George and Queen Mary of England.

Mr. R. R. Roxburgh, manager in the Orient for Messrs. John I. Thorneycroft & Co., was a passenger on the "President Jackson" which left Hong Kong to-day for Shanghai.

One of the most popular lady turties in the Colony, Mrs. R. J. Patterson, has left the Colony. She sailed to-day on the "President Jackson" for Shanghai. Mr. Patterson is with Messrs. Jardine, Matheson & Co., Ltd., and was formerly Clerk of the Course of the Hong Kong Jockey Club.

The speed of the L.C.C. trams has been increased to an average of nine and three-quarter miles an hour, including "stops," the highest average speed of any urban tramways in the kingdom. The London General omnibuses maintain an average speed of eight miles an hour, including "stops."

Shanghai residents who came down for the Hong Kong Jockey Club's annual race meeting and left to-day to return by the "President Jackson" included the well-known gentleman riders, Mr. V. M. Halmovitch, Mr. A. J. P. Heard, Mr. J. Pote-Hunt, Mr. H. Maitland and Mrs. Maitland; also Mr. D. E. Sassoon (of the "Eve" stable), Mr. F. Elias, Mr. F. Gensberger, and Mr. W. G. Pirie.

A Chinese male was sentenced to five years with hard labour at the Criminal Sessions yesterday for the theft of money and clothing belonging to a Chinese doctor living at 334 Shanghai Street, Yaumati. It was alleged that prisoner entered the house with two other men and asked for a cubicle and thereupon proceeded to keep the occupant company in smoking opium. The men later bound and gagged the doctor. The latter, on the following evening, saw the prisoner in the street. On seeing him, he was observed prisoner ran away but was captured.

Two highly respected Hong Kong Chinese families will be united next Tuesday when the wedding will take place at St. John's Cathedral, at 8 p.m. of Mr. R. C. Lee and Miss Esther Wong. The bridegroom is the eldest son of Mr. Lee Hyatt, the owner of Lee Theatre and Lee Garden, East Point. Mr. Lee, senior, has spent large sums in the development of districts between Wan Chai and Causeway Bay, where he owns a great deal of property.

The bride is the fourth daughter of Mr. and Mrs. J. M. Wong. Mr. Wong is a comrade to Messrs. A. S. Watson and Co., Ltd. During the war he took prominent part in the activities of the Chinese Company of the Police Reserve. Mr. Wong is also an enthusiastic member of the Chinese Protestant Church. The bride is a charming young lady well-versed in European customs, and the recent marriage of her elder sisters were social events in the leading local Chinese classes.

Arrangements are being made in connection with the visit of the King of Siam to Java, which is to take place in June. The visit is expected to last ten weeks and 80 officials and 20 others will be attached to H.M.'s suite. Half of the Hotel Papandayan at Garret has been reserved for the visitors. In Bandung His Majesty will stay at the Hotel Holland.

Dr. R. Gandler, the Director of the League of Nations Eastern Bureau, has arrived back in Singapore from India.

Miss B. C. Preston, of the Daventry Centre of England Lodge, has been installed Provincial Grand Master of the Manchester Unity of Oddfellows.

Major J. M. Mackenzie, Royal Scots, has assumed duty as Commandant S.S.V.F. and C.S.M. J. Imm, South Staffords, as Regimental Sergeant-Major.

The late Mr. Gershom Whitfield Guiness, M.B. (52), of the China Inland Mission, Newington Green, London, N., for 30 years a medical missionary, left £1,334.

Mr. P. H. Suckling, A.S.A.A., general manager of the Hong Kong & Shanghai Hotels, Ltd. left to-day by the "President Jackson" on one of his periodical business visits to Shanghai.

The death took place in the General Hospital, Singapore, on Friday, January 13, of Mr. J. W. Rowan, Head Assistant on Sungai Wangi Estate, Sitiawan. The funeral took place the following day at Bidadiar cemetery.

A Blyth message says the election of Co-operative Wholesale Society directors resulted as follows: London District, Mr. C. T. Darch; Manchester, Sir F. C. Dudley, Mr. J. Hawkins; Newcastle, Mr. W. Dodds. No change.

The L.N.E.R. have decided that as their signals are renewed the semaphore arms shall be made to work in the upper quadrant—i.e., upwards instead of downwards for the "all clear" position. The danger aspect will remain unaltered.

The wedding took place at St. Andrew's Cathedral, Singapore, of Mr. Charles Gordon Osborne, of Messrs. Simé, Darby & Co., Ltd., to Mrs. Hollinshead. Mr. J. M. Simé gave the bride away. Miss Douglas was bridesmaid and Mr. D. McDearmid was bestman.

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# SPORTS

## BROKEN TIME.

BRITISH SOCCER AUTHORITIES DECIDE.

BREAK WITH CONTINENT.

London, Yesterday.  
A meeting of the Football Association in London to-day received a report from a conference of representatives of English, Scottish, Welsh and Irish Football Associations held at Sheffield on Feb. 17.

The F.A. adopted the recommendation by the conference of withdrawal from membership of the International Football Federation and a letter of resignation has been sent.

The trouble is due to the International Federation's action regarding payment for broken time in connection with the Olympics.—Reuter.

### A Vexed Point.

[Note: Payment to amateurs for alleged broken time has been a vexed point between the British and Continental football authorities for some time. Matters reached a head when the "international" authorities sanctioned the payment to amateurs (who are to play in the Olympic Games) for broken time. Because the British F.A.'s hold that it is wrong in principle, they have now severed connection.]

## SOCcer THROW-IN.

### IS REVISION OF RULE NEEDED?

### REDUCING INTERRUPTIONS.

Writing in a home paper, Charles Buchan (the Arsenal forward) points out:

Football cup-ties are as vital to the clubs concerned that any methods likely to bring the desired results are adopted. Consequently the stoppages for off-side, free kicks, throws-in, etc., are more frequent, and the pleasure of the game, as a spectacle, is greatly reduced. How can the number of these interruptions be reduced? The off-side rule cannot be altered; the penalty for free kicks does not lend itself to any amendment, consequently the only way in which an improvement can be made is by an alteration to the rule governing the throw-in.

### Offside Rule a Success.

It will be generally admitted that the alteration to the offside rule has proved a great success. It has added to the speed of the game and done away with many irritating stoppages. Yet we have only gone back to the way in which the game was played 40 years ago. If it was so successful in this instance, why not try the same expedient with regard to throws-in? In bygone days, a player could throw the ball in practically with one hand, and could propel the ball a considerable distance. Some half-backs could plant the ball into the goalmouth quite easily, making each throw-in as dangerous as corner-kick, and conferring great benefit to their side. They made the punishment for kicking out a serious affair instead of the innocuous thing it is now.

### Benefit to Game.

If the present rule is deleted and the old rule brought into force, it may prove a great benefit to the game. Players would devote more attention to keeping the ball in play, with a subsequent improvement in the play. Half-backs, in particular, would have to endeavour to get the ball to their forwards instead of playing for safety. It would affect the play of the backs as well. When in difficulties, especially near the corner flag, full-backs generally resort to the practice of putting the ball into touch. If this alteration were made they would be compelled to strive to keep the ball in play, thus giving the forwards an opportunity of tackling them while in possession. It would mean that a team sorely pressed during the last minutes of the game would be compelled to adopt other tactics to keep their defence intact, and, instead of this period of the game being the tamest, it would become the most exciting.

### TENNIS TOURNAMENT.

In the first round of the Club Championship singles of the Hong Kong C.C. annual tennis tournament yesterday, C. C. Stark defeated Dr. D. J. Valentine by 8-6, 7-5.

R. M. Henderson received a walk-over from S. M. Garrard. The G. C. Grove v. H. Owen Hughes match was postponed.

In Monday's "China Mail" it was erroneously stated that Mr. H. T. M. Barnes is the captain of the University 2nd XI cricket team. Mr. F. H. Potts is the skipper who has successfully led his team to win the junior championship this season, went various changes.

## INTERNATIONAL.

### FRANCE IN TWO SOCCER MATCHES.

### BRITISH ARMY WINS.

Paris, Yesterday.  
At international soccer, France defeated Ireland to-day by four goals to nil.—Reuter.

Army Triangular.  
Paris, Yesterday.  
In the Army triangular tournament, the French Army lost to the British Army to-day by the odd goal in five.—Reuter.

[Note: The Belgian Army is the other competitor.]

Scottish League.  
London, Yesterday.

In Division I. of the Scottish Football League to-day, St. Mirren (on their own ground) lost to Celtic by two goals to nil.—Reuter.

The winners take first place on goal average and the league table now stands at—

	Goals.
P. W. D. L. F. A. Pts.	
Celtic ... 28 18 7 3 72 24 43	
Rangers ... 27 19 5 3 83 39 42	
Motherwell ... 28 18 6 4 75 31 39	
Hibernians ... 27 17 4 7 78 33 35	
St. Mirren ... 29 14 5 10 67 61 33	
Kilmarnock ... 28 12 5 8 82 55 31	
Partick ... 29 14 5 10 67 49 31	
Aberdeen ... 29 14 5 12 84 53 31	
Cowdenbeath ... 29 12 5 10 67 49 31	
Falkirk ... 28 14 5 12 80 52 27	
St. Johnstone ... 29 11 7 11 57 54 29	
Hibernians ... 28 10 7 11 54 51 29	
Dundee ... 28 10 4 14 47 62 24	
Airdrie ... 28 7 9 12 41 56 27	
Cueen's Park ... 28 8 6 14 49 50 22	
Bo'ness ... 28 9 2 17 37 67 19	
Cly ... 28 7 5 16 35 62 19	
Hamilton ... 28 7 4 17 48 64 18	
Ruth Rovers ... 27 6 5 16 43 74 17	
Dunfermline ... 28 3 3 22 50 95 9	

## LOCAL FOOTBALL.

### UNITED SERVICES SHIELD SEMI-FINAL

### KOSBIES BEAT R.A.

By five goals to nil, the 2nd Batt. King's Own Scottish Borderers defeated Royal Artillery yesterday, at Soekumpoo, in the semi-final round of the United Services shield football competition. Stocks and Campbell scored in the first half. After the change of ends, Toal, McGlinchey and Alexander found the mark. Philpott, Viccars and Trim played up-to-date (writes F. A. M. Webster).

### C. B. Fry's Feat.

The first man to clear 23 ft. was that great all-round athlete, C. B. Fry.

In March 1893, at Oxford,

he amazed everyone with a new world's record of 23 ft. 6½ ins.

That, to-day, is a comparatively ordinary performance. Towards

the end of last century, W. J. M.

Newburn, a gigantic Irishman, beat

24 ft. In 1901, another Irishman,

P. J. O'Connor, made 25 ft. quite

possible by clearing 24 ft. 1¾ ins.

That record stood unapproached

until 1912, when an American, A. L.

Gutierrez, won the Olympic event

at 24 ft. 1 5/8ths in.

### Negro Athletes.

Twenty-five feet, however, was

not beaten until a group of Ameri-

cans negroes came into prominence

just after the War. Sol Butler was

expected to do 25 ft. at the Antwerp

Olympiad in 1920, but pulled a

huge muscle in his first jump.

A year later another negro, Ed.

Gourdin, of Harvard University, did

25 ft. 3 ins. Then, at the Paris

Olympiad in 1924, I saw a white

American, R. Legende, make an

amazing jump of 25 ft. 6 3/16ths

ins. He did it by getting very high

in the air, making a running step

while off the ground and contribut-

ing a fine body whip from the waist

upwards. The man who had been

expected to break the record at that

meeting was a very small Ameri-

can negro, de Hart Hubbard, but

he, like Butler at Antwerp, pulled a

a muscle.

## LAST MATCH.

### M.C.C. TEAM IN SOUTH AFRICA.

### END OF CRICKET TOUR.

Capetown, Yesterday.  
The last match of the M.C.C. cricket tour in South Africa, the M.C.C. defeated Western Province by eight wickets. Scores:

M.C.C. (1st innings) 415 runs for 8 wickets, declared.

Western Province (1st innings) 162 runs, Freeman, A. P. (of Kent) took 5 wickets for 49 runs.

Western Province (2nd innings), followed-on 339 runs.

M.C.C. (2nd innings) 87 runs for 2 wickets.—Reuter.

## LONG JUMPING.

### ENGLAND LONG WAY BEHIND AMERICA.

### SPRINTERS AS STYLISTS.

Long Jumping is a sport in which England has fallen a long way behind America. I have seen it stated in print that a Framlingham school boy once jumped 23ft. 6½ inches, but upon enquiry I found that there was "a slight fall from the take off to the pit." The record I think that we may really recognise is that of 21 ft. 9½ ins. created at the Public Schools Championships in 1928, by V. B. Powell, Clifton.

A Great Jumper.

There is no reason why Great Britain should not produce fine Long Jumpers, except that we are not so good as the Americans and Scandinavians, in improving and keeping our methods of jumping up-to-date (writes F. A. M. Webster).

"But if I hit it I'll go too far."

"Ye needna fash," replied the caddie; "ye'll hit no fit."

He meant, of course, that the player would not hit the ball perfectly, and so was certain not to go over the green. It was a case of sound advice that might have been better put.

### Very Human.

Caddies are very human. They generally take a tremendous interest in your game (often because they have bet on the match!). But they occasionally become disgusted and show their disapproval in many ways.

A temperamental player may be upset by his caddie's attitude, and I have long wondered what were the thoughts of a certain American who was having a round at St. Andrews. The first hole he played fairly well; the second also. Going to the third, however, he sliced one shot after the other until, after five strokes, he found himself on the Jubilee course and close to the sea.

This meant that he was at least 200 yards off the line, and had the Jubilee course, both fairways of the New course, and the rough between him and the third green.

Unashamed, he turned to the caddie and said, "What's the line?"

"If ye tell me what course we're playing on, I'll soon tell ye the line," came the reply.

Bobby Jones.

Bobby Jones not only estimates distance, but chooses the club for himself. He is probably wise, for while caddies are generally pretty reliable, they may think of a shot as flying high, whereas the player may have it in mind to play a low shot with a bit of a run on the ball.

I was during a championship, that a friend of mine whose thoughts were running in a different channel from those of his caddie, said: "Give me the big iron."

"Ye'll tak' yer cleek or I'll gle ye the brassie," replied the caddie.

My friend, a really good cleek player, decided to show his caddie exactly how far he could get with the cleek, and he struck a beauty, a true pin splitter. On reaching the green, the ball lay some five yards past the hole in an excellent position—much to the surprise of my friend, who fondly thought that the ball would finish well over the pins.

Friend for the Day.

My friend's comment afterwards was: "It's dreadful to think that, once on the links, these caddies seem to own you body and soul. When I turned round the caddie was lighting a cigarette!"

The manner in which he tees the ball and arranges the clubs in the bag tells you immediately whether a caddie is good or not. The modern caddie beans all over when he does a bag with not too many clubs in it, and he is your friend for the day. But give him a huge kit, with probably fifteen irons and four wooden clubs, and he begins to wonder what manner of golfer is this who needs all these clubs to get round!

One day after lunch on a course in the South I heard a caddie say to the player: "We left seven clubs out of the bag." This morning you didn't play a shot with any of them."

(Continued on next Column.)

## GOLF CADDIES.

### SOUND ADVICE FROM THE BAGMEN.

### WHEN VARDON REFUSED IT.

When Harry Vardon was at the height of his great golfing career he once asked his caddie which club he should take.

"Tak' yer cleek," said the caddie. "No," replied Vardon, "I think

"Weel, ye can if ye like, but I'll no gie' it ye," said the caddie, and he turned round the bag.

Vardon took his brassie, went over the green, and from that point his caddie did not hand him a single club, but placed the bag so that Vardon could make his own selection. Player and caddie were not on speaking terms for the rest of that round!

Distance is not the only point on which a caddie should be able to give good advice; he should know the best line to the hole, and also the heat spots for an easy approach. And there are occasions when the caddie should be able to warn his golfer to play short of the green, or to make sure of being up and past the flag.

### FLATTER BUSINESS.



## M.C.L. IN 1927.

## REPORT FOR THE ANNUAL MEETING.

## ACTIVITIES REVIEWED.

The annual meeting of the Hong Kong Women's Guild and Ministering Children's League is to be held at 11 a.m. on Thursday, at the Helena May Institute.

The statement of accounts for Feb. 28, 1927 to Jan. 31, 1928, has been issued together with the report of the Vice-President and Committee and the list of officers for 1927. Allocation of funds in 1927 is listed; this has already been announced. The report follows:

## Organisation.

During the year 1927, the League's work has been enthusiastically carried on under the Presidentship of Mrs. Southern.

The need of a Vice-President on the Committee has been felt for some time, and Mrs. E. D. C. Wolfe was unanimously elected as the first Vice-President at a meeting held on August 25.

Mrs. Burlingham, on her departure from the Colony, resigned the Hon. Treasurership, and Mrs. Tratman took over the duties. Mrs. T. H. King became the Hon. General Secretary, when Mrs. Creasy went on leave in March.

## Successful Year.

The Vice-President and Committee wish to express thanks to all those whose generous support has made this year so successful. The total sum of \$17,550 indicates the zeal and enthusiasm with which the various branches worked towards the general result.

Only in the years 1922 and 1923, when the totals were respectively \$21,000 and \$21,075, has the League ever achieved greater success.

The success of "Fun o' the Fair" was largely due to the kindness of Mr. Lee Hysan in putting the Lee Gardens at the disposal of the Committee thereby giving the Fair a suitable background. An outstanding feature was the music contributed by the four Regimental bands, who, through the courtesy of the Military Authorities, gave their services throughout the day.

Through the generosity of the Hong Kong and Shanghai Hotels, Ltd., "Whitney Smith's" Orchestra played at the dance held in the evening.

The League is also indebted to the Press, who gave the Fair so much help and publicity by advertising and printing notice; and to all those who so generously advertised in the Souvenir Booklet.

Special thanks are due to Mr. E. I. Wynne-Jones for having run the Accounts Office at the Fair and to Mr. B. E. Maughan for having audited the Accounts for 1927.

## REPORTS OF BRANCHES.

## Military Branch.

In the early part of the year, the Military Branch at the suggestion of Mrs. Luard, held a most successful football match which was organised by the Rev. Alexander and Q.M.S. Steele. The substantial sum of \$1,227 was handed in to the Treasurer.

At the Fair, Mrs. Russell-Brown's entertainments realised a considerable sum, and the White Elephant Stall, organised by Mrs. Robinson, was both successful and amusing.

## Naval Branch.

The Naval Branch formed a small Committee amongst the members of the Dockyard Ladies' Recreation Club, and conducted Whist Drives in aid of the League funds once a month. These were well attended and added considerably to the contribution of the Naval Branch to the General Fund.

In June, Mrs. Daniels, the Hon. Secretary D.L.R.C., who was the leading spirit at the Whist Drives, organised a dance at the Savoy Hotel, and a concert was held in the Dockyard during September.

At the Fete, the Naval Branch ran a Shooting Gallery, in charge of Captain Whitworth, R.M.; Chute and Aunt Sally, in charge of Commander Byron, R.N.; a Guessing Competition, run by Mrs. Phillips and Mrs. Miles, and two raffles, one of a doll, and the other of a hand-spoon.

## St. Stephen's Girls.

The St. Stephen's Girls' College ran a bran-pie at the Fair, which realised \$130. The Annual Sale of Work, held in November, produced a further sum of \$1,500, making a total of \$1,630.

## Peak Branch.

In June, the "Squeaklets," organised by Mrs. Russell-Brown, gave an excellent performance at the Peak Club, partly in aid of the League's Funds. In July, a very successful Bridge and Mahjong Drive was held. The Hon. Secretary, Peak Branch, takes this opportunity of thanking all those who generously gave prizes, and the Committee of the Peak Club for putting the Club at their disposal.

In September, Miss Leonard, arranged a small play by Children in aid of the League's Funds, and the two performances, held in Mrs. Hilliard's house, were most successful. At the Fair, this branch had an Ice Cream Barrow, and sold Balloons.

## Children's Club.

"The Children's Club" had a successful season. By the kind invitation of Mrs. Bernard, the meetings were held weekly in the house or garden at 117, Peak. The children worked from 4.45 to 5.30, then had an interval for refreshments, after which they had organised games for half an hour.

The subscription was one dollar a month, to cover the working expenses and cost of materials. A small Little Library was formed by each child contributing one book on loan for the season.

The Club's work was sold privately, and they also had a stall at the Fair. Thanks are due to Mrs. Bernard, and to the many willing helpers who made the meetings such success. The question asked frequently by the Children's Club members is "Why can't we have the Club all the year?" which speaks for the enthusiasm of the members of this branch.

## St. Paul's Girls' School.

The Girls have had charge of the "Dollar Stall" for more than eight years, and this year every article was given or worked by them. They give an hour a week to M.C.L. work, and the materials used were purchased with the money raised from weekly subscriptions.

## Prisons' Branch.

This branch held sewing parties throughout the summer months at Mrs. Robertson's flat, which were well attended. It held three Whist Drives and several Raftes, and at the Fair ran side-shows, including an Ice Cream and Minerals Stall, a Cocoanut Shy and an Aunt Sally, which did very well indeed.

## Bellion Public School.

This branch guaranteed to raise \$1,000 towards the funds, and held a small sale of work. One of the classes arranged a play. At the Fair they ran a very successful Lucky Ring. In December the Hon. Treasurer received the balance of \$212... (making up the School's guarantee of the one thousand) which was raised by weekly subscriptions.

## Police Branch.

The Police Branch held working parties at the Helena May Institute on the 2nd and 4th Fridays of each month, from the end of May to the end of October; and in November they held a small sale of work.

Four very successful Whist Drives were held between June and September; and on October 3, a dance was held in the City Hall, which was kindly lent for the occasion.

The Hong Kong & Shanghai Hotels, Ltd., very generously gave the services of "Whitney Smith's" Orchestra. The Police Branch had a stall at the Fair and ran a Ladies' Raffle, a Men's Raffle, Brain Pie, Hidden Treasure Competition, Cake Weight Guessing Competition and Guessing a Doll's Name.

## Quarry Bay.

The Quarry Bay Branch did not have a stall at the Fair this year, but the Quarry Bay Juvenile Dancers, under the training of Mr. and Mrs. Craig, gave a delightful display of Highland Dancing.

## Victoria Branch.

The Victoria Branch ran a Baby's Stall and a Basket Stall at the Fair, and during the Summer arranged a Monthly Golf Competition at Deep Water Bay.

## New Allocations.

1. The "Street Boys' Club" is run by the Hon. Mr. E. D. C. Wolfe C.M.G., assisted by some Police Officers. The object is to try and provide for homeless boys, who, if not looked after, will sooner or later become criminals. There are at present twenty-four boys in the Club.

2. "The Central Charities Organisation" was started early this year, with the idea of centralising the work of all charitable societies in Hong Kong in order to prevent overlapping.

3. The Hong Kong & South China Masonic Benevolent Corporation Fund.

Captain Baylis, who very generously gave a motor car to be raffled at the Fun o' the Fair, stipulated that a sum of not less than \$200 should go towards this fund. The actual sum contributed was \$250.

The Register of Members shows 276 adults and 1,482 children on the books for 1927.

Grand Total of Funds Raised.

1920 ... \$10,481 1924 ... \$13,698

1921 ... 16,428 1925 ... 16,481

1922 ... 21,009 1926 ... 14,539

1923 ... 21,075 1927 ... 17,550

SKY-SCRAPER MISHAP.

Steel Girders Fall.

New York, Dec. 27.—Three heavy steel girders crashed from a height of twenty storeys to a street in the Wall Street district to-day, in the most crowded section of the city.

A motor truck was crushed, and injuries were caused to pedestrians, details of which are still unknown.

An applicant for a moneylender's certificate at Old Street Police Court admitted that she could not read the oath, which caused the magistrate to wonder how she was going to keep the necessary account.

## DEATH SENTENCES.

## ABOLITION FAVOURED IN CEYLON.

## LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL DECISION.

Ceylon, February 3.

The Legislative Council yesterday decided by a majority that capital punishment should be abolished in Ceylon.

There was an interesting debate on the subject, but the tenor of it appeared lacking in gravity, in the opinion of Mr. Wille.

The Official Members refrained from participating in it, as the Colonial Secretary considered the question one of Imperial policy.

He said that the views of members would be forwarded to the Secretary of State.

Several members supported the motion because of the difficulties which Buddhist Jurymen experience in bringing in a verdict when they know that the accused person will receive the death penalty.

Mr. Freeman supported the motion because he found "almost all the evidence in this country very unreliable."

"The people of Ceylon are a very impulsive people who naturally deserve our sympathy was a rather enigmatical remark made by Mr. Jayah, who opposed the motion.

"England, with a sense of justice unparalleled in the world, has not seen fit to abolish the death penalty," said Mr. Willo, who strongly opposed the motion, "and we have to face the fact in Ceylon that murders are on the increase."

Members of the Ceylon Legislative Council demonstrated yesterday that on occasions they can hustle, comments the "Times of Ceylon" in a leading article on the subject.

In many parts of the world the problem of capital punishment has been the subject of earnest consideration for years.

In the course of quite busy afternoon a majority of the members of the Ceylon Legislative Council were able to make up their minds that capital punishment should be abolished in Ceylon. Nevertheless,

it is a question in regard to which, it will be a great division of opinion.

## Exaggerated Arguments?

Examining the arguments adduced in the Council Chamber yesterday one cannot help feeling that there was not a little exaggeration.

If the history of the administration of justice in the country is examined the view will be borne out that any miscarriage of justice due to opposition to capital punishment has been negligible.

It is said that where only a verdict of the capital offence has been open to the jury there have been acquittals not justified by the evidence.

Should this be the case we venture to think public attention would have been positively and frequently drawn to this aspect of the matter before.

So far as we are aware the law has worked well. The right of the Crown to ask as many jurors as the prosecution likes to stand down should not be lost sight of.

This is a useful safeguard against the inclusion on the jury of men who would bring in a perverse verdict.

Persons with conscientious scruples generally acquaint the Court of this fact if it is not already known to the prosecution.

## THE CHINA MAIL.

## BUILDING NEARING COMPLETION.

## SUMPTUOUS FITTINGS.

Shanghai, Feb. 18.

Members of the Press yesterday were permitted to see the interior of the Foreign Y.M.C.A. Building, on Bubbling Well Road, which will formally be opened on May 1. Work is progressing favourably, and some of the social and dining rooms were in such a stage of completion that their beauty clearly could be seen.

The building, which has been commented on in club and residential gossip, will be as modern as science and money can make it.

Ten storeys high, it possesses more floors than any other building in port, but, of course, will be surpassed in this respect when the Sashon House is opened.

Two micro-drive lifts of large capacity will care for tenants, and service lifts from the kitchen to dining halls, and for baggage are installed in the rear of the building.

Frigidaire equipment has already been placed in rooms adjacent to dining halls, and a smaller plant will be installed especially for the "snack" counter and soda fountain.

## Drinking Fountains.

A feature of the construction is the care taken in the provision of drinking water. In all rooms, filtered water from the faucet is available. During the heat of summer the water first will be sent through a large cooling coil.

Fountains in corners of the gymnasium are to afford refreshment for athletes.

As one enters the building, which is being decorated by Messrs. Arts and Craft, the barbershop—fitted out with modern sanitary arrangements—is on the left, while to the right is the soda fountain.

To the left are four bowling alleys and to the extreme right are business men's dressing rooms and showers.

On the first floor, fronting on Bubbling Well Road, is the immense lounge, fitted out in dark woods, and elaborately lighted by the indirect system. Secretaries' offices and billiard tables, face either side of the building.

The mezzanine floor, in addition to lobbies and lounges, also houses the boys' games room and more secretaries.

On the fourth floor are the library, the combined assembly room and private dining room, while on the right are two large public dining rooms which can be thrown together, all of which will be tinted to give prominence to the lighting system.

## 183 BEDROOMS.

The six upper floors will be devoted to 183 bedrooms, including a judicious selection of suites.

Rents suitable to a variety of purses will be adjusted, and one may pay from as low as \$46 per month to \$100, and \$150 for the suites.

The maximum charge for meals is \$60, with a rebate for business men who cannot have their tiffin in the building.

The rooms are without private baths, but enough bathrooms have been provided for residents.

Not and

## SHANGHAI Y.M.C.A.

## WHEN WE ALL FLY.

## BIRD-LIKE PLANE PROPELLED BY PEDALS.

MODELED ON BIRDS' FLIGHT.

London, Jan. 20.

The day when it will be easier to fly than to walk, when aeroplanes will be things of the past, and man will be able to soar like the bird by his own power at a cost of less than \$25, was optimistically foreseen last night by Captain Victor Dibovsky in a lecture before the Society of Model Aeronautical Engineers at the Y.M.C.A. headquarters.

Captain Dibovsky, who was Chief of the Imperial Russian Naval Aviation Mission to the Allies, has devoted his energies of late years to the solution of this problem; his plans are now complete, and he is hoping to begin the construction of a machine in the near future.

He bases his whole theory on the flight of birds, taking the albatross as the perfect specimen for the purpose. "The energy of the air can enable human flight," he said, "if the machine used is similar in design to the construction of the albatross."

His machine will be built with bird shaped wings, with a span of 28ft. attached to a horizontal body of only 12ft. The point which Captain Dibovsky emphasises about the construction is that the machine will not be rigid like the aeroplane, but completely flexible and capable of the wing actions, vertical and lateral, of the bird. Power will be provided by pedals by far less energy than that expended in the action of walking.

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## SELLS HANDCUFFS.

HISTORY OF WHISTLER'S IN THE STRAND.

OTHER EXAMPLES.

## WORLD PEACE.

VISCOUNT CECIL'S VIEWS.

STRENGTHEN THE LEAGUE.

Now that an arcade of shops is to be built at Charing Cross, one begins to look with new curiosity on the shops of the Strand. The Strand has been a famous shopping street for at least two centuries, and it is only in the present century, and especially since the war, that it has become overgrown with cheap and gaudy tailors, bargain boot shops, and mock auctions, with a few stately old growth of pedigree shops still surviving here and there in the jungle.

Near Somerset House there is still a famous tailor and shirt maker that has made tropical suits for Anglo-Indians since the days of the John Company, and somehow suggests, too, that heirs to estates under probate in Somerset House treat themselves there to new suits and smarties on such occasions. Another shop at this part is a soldier's at whose door in sunny weather you can still see saddles finished and ready to be packed in cases for distant polo players.

The gun-maker next to the Middle Temple entrance announces that, like his old neighbour the famous fishing-rod and tackle shop, he is "about to go west." Soheran, the bookseller, still has his rare old shop near Wellington Street, although Soheran's the great auctioneers, have long since gone off to Piccadilly with the black Egyptian god that stood over their doorway in Wellington Place. A few shops of a good class harbour in the shadow of the Savoy and the Cecil, and at other parts a business with a look of breeding can be discerned among noisy neighbours; but the residential middle class have long ago left the neighbourhood, and the Strand of to-day suggests the chance comier. It will be interesting to see if the new shopping arcade will revive the old shopping glories of the Strand.

Ripe and Peculiar.

At the corner of Craven Street there still stands a ripe and peculiar shop, not only different from other shops in the Strand, but from other shops in London. Whistler's is the only shop in the Strand now with lace curtains in its upper windows, proclaiming that this merchant still lives over his shop, and it is the only shop in London that displays handcuffs for sale in two of its windows; writes "J. B." in the "Manchester Guardian." I had known the Strand window with its handcuffs for many years, and never tried to find out till the other day what the trade in handcuffs was and who bought them. I hardly wanted to know the facts.

I liked to think that absent-minded detectives from Scotland Yard running to catch the Continental train at Charing Cross to bring back extradited criminals, finding they had forgotten that part of their outfit, nipped into Whistler's shop and got a new pair. I liked to think of stout farmers up for the cattle show buying a pair of handcuffs so as to be ready for the Strand confidence-trick men when they had got well on the way with their rosary story. But, really, who do buy handcuffs?

Shop With a History.

Well, I went into this mysterious shop and heard interesting things about the handcuffs and much else. The original Whistler was a diamond merchant who founded the shop here in 1825 and was so good a silversmith that he made the Northumbrian Race Cup, which came back to the shop a few years ago for valuation. His watchman's rattle is still kept under the desk of the present proprietor, who points out its superiority to a whistle. A whistle, he says, is impossible to blow if you are in a very excited state. If you are in a state of fear it simply can't be done. (This is an important point for householders.)

The seat in which I sat was a hall chair with a crest inlaid in the back. It had been the chair of Sir Robert Peel, the Corn Law reformer, and there were other chairs in use there of even more curious provenance. The house did considerable business in rifles and shot-guns, and had sold weapons to big-game hunters and small-game hunters for about a century. It had done business in all sorts of things; from it came the First Folio Shakespeare that was sold at Sotheby's for £4,500 in the early years of this century, and there is a good Romney upstairs; for this romantic shop follows also the trade of the Medicis.

Festooned Handcuffs.

The handcuffs are festooned, broken by police whistles as the dart breaks the tongue in the Greek ornament, along the Strand and the Craven Street windows. Who, buy them and having bought them, what do they do with the handcuffs? Well, it seems casual customers buy a certain number. Any man walking along the Strand might have a pair in his pocket. But the main business is done by post. Letters come from all parts of the world to Whistler's asking

## SOVIET MARRIAGE.

## "COMPANIONATE" IN MUKDEN.

## LADY REFUSES.

London, Dec. 29.

Viscount Cecil has requested the Australian Press Association to transmit the following New Year message to Australia:—"The consequence of the world war and the possibilities of future wars stare us in the face more insistently because the very existence of the British Empire depends upon the maintenance of peace."

"The League has done much and has settled numerous disputes which under pre-war diplomacy might have resulted in war. Another war would mean the ruin of civilisation."

"While there is time we must strengthen the League. That is why the adoption of compulsory arbitration and the reduction of armaments is of such urgent importance. Only public opinion can finally carry them through. It rests with the League societies in Australia and elsewhere to create an opinion which make for peace and a united Empire."

## TIN HARES.

## "A VERITABLE PLAGUE."

London, Dec. 25.

Commenting on the statement of the Secretary of State for Home Affairs (Sir William Joynson-Hicks) to a deputation concerning the increase of juvenile betting on dog racing, the "Observer" says:—"Dog racing establishes the virtual equivalent of the roulette table wherever there is sufficient population to make it pay. It is not children alone who require protection from this commercialised magma. The demand for intervention is general and spontaneous. Municipalities resent it as a veritable plague."

## LEAGUE MANDATES.

## Italy Restive.

Rome, Dec. 30.

With significant unanimity the Italian Press is demanding a revision of the League of Nations' mandates, presumably as a means of drawing attention to the need for outlets for surplus Italians but some consider that it is part of a plan for marshalling Italy's grievances for the suggested bartering regarding concessions in the pending Italo-French discussions.

The "Corriere della Sera" talks of remedying the injustice of the mandates and suggests an international conference to discuss Italy's claims to the same rights as Britain and France.

The "Petit Parisien" (Paris) learns that Signor Mussolini has no intention of drawing up such bartering programmes.

The Rome correspondent of the London "Daily Telegraph" understands that recent conversations between Signor Mussolini and M. Michalopoulos, the Greek Minister for Foreign Affairs are most important and are a prelude to an alliance between Rome and Athens on the questions of the Balkan policy.

[A previous message stated:—Undoubtedly Signor Mussolini is very anxious that Italy should preponderate in Balkan affairs and he resents the Franco-Yugo-Slavian treaty chiefly because it challenges that predominance. It is believed here that he might be willing to relax some of Italy's pretensions in the Western Mediterranean in return for a free hand in the waters and territories east of Italy.]

for the merchandise to be forwarded at once. Handcuffs have been sent as far as the Fiji Islands and Buenos Aires, but the main customers are on the Continent. Handcuffs rarely go to police authorities, for they have, of course, their official handcuffs makers. I could get no information whom the orders came from. Private lunatic asylums, shipowners (every passenger liner carries handcuffs and coffins), theatrical companies, private detectives are probably the chief customers. I was shown one order received recently from Paris for six pairs of handcuffs—one pair ladies' size nickel-plated—and each pair were carefully described as to pattern and lock. There are many varieties of handcuffs, different shapes and keys and sizes and material. The prices run from a cheap pair at 6s. 6d. to 25s. for a smart nickel pair suitable for a kleptomaniac. The shop sells about a hundred pairs of handcuffs a year. Whether absent-minded detectives who have forgotten these tools, and are on their way to the Continent to bring back extradited prisoners, ever nip in to Whistler's on their way to Charing Cross no one could tell me. The shop with the handcuffs, although I know now all they have to tell inside, still remains to add to the mystery of the Strand.

## COCKNEY TONGUE.

## FORCING IT ON YORKSHIRE.

## G.K.C.'S DOUBTS.

Mukden, Feb. 2.

We have heard a good deal recently on the subject of companionate marriages in America but it seems the Americans have nothing on the Soviets in such things. The writer, as an illustration, has but only to relate the amusing story of a proposal made to a local Russian lady by a Soviet citizen, of Harbin who took advantage of the Chinese New Year holidays to come here for the purpose of pressing his suit. Being a "good" Soviet citizen, he complied with all the formalities required by the Soviet authorities, and, subsequently, came armed with a "preliminary contract" required of such an errand, and, after telling the lady how much his Red heart pined for her, handed her the document for her consideration and, if necessary, for alteration.

Feminine Contempt.

The lady commenced reading the provisions contained in this contract, but before she had reached the fourth point, she expressed her contempt and indignation for Soviet marriage regulations and by the time she had reached the 17th point raised by the document, she opened the door and showed her would-be quasi-husband the nearest road back to the railway station. As far as the lady can remember, the following were some of the points:—

(1) We, A—B—... and Y—Z—... having decided to enter into a provisional marriage arrangement, that is to say for one year, during which period we are mutually under probation, agree that:

(a) should either party wish to have the provisional marriage terminated at its expiration, two months' clear notice must be given, otherwise the arrangement automatically continues for another year;

(b) should either party wish to have the arrangement continued when the expiration draws near, it would be understood that the second probationary period would be for three years. (Note: It will be seen that provision "a" provides for one year as "continuation period" whereas provision "b" provides for three years.)

(2) It is understood that both parties must furnish ample medical testimony in respect of their health and general physical conditions and that, during the continuation of this marriage agreement, should either party become infected with a dangerous disease, the other party is automatically at liberty to terminate the agreement;

(a) If in Soviet Russia, before the proper local authorities; (b) If abroad, before a Soviet official representative authorised under the marriage regulations to effect such terminations.

Sister Shown the Door.

As the lady read from one provision to another, she noticed that they gradually increased in provisions of an intimate nature, hence by the time she had reached provision number 17, she bade the "good" Soviet citizen from Harbin good afternoon and promptly showed him his way out.

The man protested against such scant ceremony being accorded him, and declared that the lady could alter those provisions which did not satisfy her fancy, although personally, he thought they were all right, and as for provision number 17, why the Soviet vice-consul had said that it was commonly entered into between contracting parties in Russia.

What is exactly dealt with under provision number 17 the writer has not been able to ascertain—it is said the lady has never enlightened her friends on this point—but the fact remains that the story of this Soviet form of proposal has caused much merriment to local Russian Whites and will be the topic of conversation for many a day. Indeed, some husbands have had their ears boxed for inquiring of their wives how they liked point 17.—"N.C.D.N." correspondent.

## RURAL ITALY.

## REDUCING WHEAT IMPORTS.

Rome, Dec. 29.

Signor G. Beluzzi, Minister for National Economy, states that there is every prospect within a few years that Italy will be independent of all imports of wheat. There are 3,000 experimental stations, and 750 stations equipped with scientific appliances and supplies of selected seed, with the result he says, that Italy's wheat production could nearly double without increasing the area for production.

man, and to learn to pronounce it as a Cockney did—(laughter)—we had before us a considerable internecine conflict between the various nations of England. From what he knew of Yorkshiremen, he thought they would doubt the position that Londoners were divinely appointed to reveal to them that the Yorkshire pronunciation was wrong and that the Cockney pronunciation was right. (Laughter.) As for the "educated" pronunciation, hardly anybody bothered about that nowadays when we had a system of wide compulsory education. (Laughter.) Individual Liberty.

There was also involved in that difficulty about organisation and compulsion the much deeper difficulty arising from two tendencies in modern life and modern education—one represented by what we termed secular and undenominational religion, and the other that education was not merely instruction, but covered the whole of life, and that children must be trained in humour, in the fighting spirit, in faith in life, and in citizenship, and all the rest. But it was extraordinarily difficult to combine that extension of education with the idea of the imposition of centralised education without violating the last remnants of individual liberty. If education was what most modern people said it was, it was perfectly impossible to keep it uncontroversial. To-day the problem was largely solved by the simple principle which corresponded to that of teaching everybody to talk Cockney—just as H. G. Wells and others taught large masses of the people to think Cockney. (Laughter.) If they adopted the propositions—(1) that everybody must be educated, whether they liked it or not, and (2) that education should cover all the questions of health, love, life, death, and the future, every aspect of human life, in fact—they had in those different things combined the materials for about as howling a religious war of persecution as human history had ever yet seen. You are proposing to enforce upon every person of human life a certain philosophy of life, while you still have a few thousands of millions of people who hate that philosophy as a heresy from hell."

Anarchy Underneath.

What was the trouble in the modern world, and what would be the trouble, was that there was a sort of anarchy underneath—the essential anarchy, when most people had been unable to decide by what authority any one thing was better than another. It might, for instance, be asked by what right did that particular kind of English in which Chaucer chose to write and which the Court chose to adopt in the reign of Henry IV. dominate over many widely differing tongues. It would be easy to look at the old Northumbrian and Scottish ballads and note language of the highest fluidity and force and adjective, whose loss to the modern language was a very great loss indeed.

The problem had become much more serious in modern times, because this had become an age of organisation and compulsion. Education provided an outstanding example of the extension of centralised power in the various departments of life. It might be perfectly right, and necessary and good, that we should compel all the children of the population to attend school, but by that act of compulsion we brought ourselves bang up against certain very big difficulties.

Replies to questions at the end of his lecture, Mr. Chesterton said that so far as he could see the solution would only come by leaving off fighting each other with babies instead of pillows, thereby turning the schools into a tournament or cockpit, and to have a battle and discover their philosophy, and then, knowing what it was, to teach it to their children.

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## BRITISH HOLLYWOOD.

## PROPOSED FILM COLONY.

## 400 ACRES IN HERTFORD.

London, Dec. 30.

After five years of work, Ludwig Blattner, who recently acquired the British film rights of "Jew Suss," announces that he has perfected a scheme to create a British Hollywood. He has acquired 400 acres in the neighbourhood of Elstree (Hertfordshire), which he proposes to call "Hollywood, England."

"I am planning," he says "a cinema colony of 30,000, including villas, a hospital, a hotel with 150 bedrooms, an aeroplane club, a cinema, carpenters, electrical shops, wardrobe, and all requisites for film-making. There will be as many studios as necessary, 'with stages 850 by 100 feet—the largest in the world. It will become, if successful, the centre of the European film industry. I am spending £2,000,000, rising to £5,000,000. At present I am working single-handed. I am starting a company to control the land and will produce in the largest studio, sub-letting the others."

## FUNERAL HALTED.

## FIREMEN RESPOND TO DUTY CALL.

## TWO ALARMS ANSWERED.

London, Dec. 1.

While the funeral of four firemen killed in the recent blaze at Glasgow was passing the stations, the fire-bell rang. The escort rushed into the station, and the funeral cortège, including hundreds of firemen, police, and public representatives, halted while the engines turned out to the fire.

When the coffins were being lowered into the grave, a second alarm compelled the firemen to hurriedly deposit their wreaths and rush to duty.

## WATER SUPPLY.

Level and Storage of water in Reservoirs on February 1, 1928.

CITY AND HILL DISTRICT WATER WORKS LEVEL

1926 1927

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### JAPAN ELECTIONS.

#### QUIET AND ORDERLY POLLING.

TOKYO, Yesterday. Though the results of the election are not yet known, general satisfaction is expressed at the quietness and orderliness with which they have been carried out and also with the good attendance at the polls, which early reports indicate has been 75 to 80 per cent. of the total electorate.—Reuter.

#### Results Coming Through:

Results from the cities at present show the Minseito to be leading, although it is expected that returns from the country districts will reverse in favour of the Selyukai.

The Tokyo prefecture has returned 17 Minseito members, 18 Selyukai supporters and one proletarian, the well-known Professor Abe, leader of the social democrat, while the Osaka prefecture has elected 13 Minseito members, five Selyukai members, two proletarians and one of the businessmen's party. Bunji Suzuki, chairman of the General Labour Federation, who was elected by a large majority.—Reuter.

#### HARD FIGHT BETWEEN SEYUKAI & MINSEITO.

#### THE INTELLECTUALS.

OSAKA, Feb. 11. Japan is now in the throes of a general election. Billposting and stump speeches are being vigorously pushed by over 900 candidates in the 122 constituencies throughout Japan. Of these candidates, 333 are for the Government and 455 against it, while 127 are independents.

They may be classified as follows:

For the Government.	
Selyukai .....	333
.....	333
Against the Government.	
Minseito .....	333
Kakushinto .....	16
Business Men .....	30
Proletariat .....	76
.....	465
Independents .....	127
Total .....	915

The Independents include a large number of men, who are inclined to side with the Government.

There are 466 seats in the House of Representatives, and the following forecast is made by many as likely to be not very wide of the mark:

Selyukai .....	220
Minseito .....	200
All others .....	46
.....	466

#### Chance for the Minseito.

If this forecast is justified by the result, which will be known on February 21-22, it will be regarded as a victory for the Government, and the present Tanaka Cabinet, and the present Tanaka Cabinet,

#### FOR THE GOVERNMENT.

Selyukai .....

Minseito .....

All others .....

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# China Mail

ESTABLISHED 1845

HONG KONG, WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 22, 1928.

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**LONDON SERVICE.**  
"HECTOR" 22nd Feb. Marseilles, London, Rotterdam & Glasgow  
"GAIUS" 6th Mar. Marseilles, London, Rotterdam & Hamburg  
"PHILIPPIES" 20th Mar. Marseilles, London, Rotterdam & Hamburg  
"AENEAS" 3rd Apr. Marseilles, London, Rotterdam & Glasgow  
"via Casablanca."

**LIVERPOOL SERVICE.**  
"ACHILLES" 5th Mar. Havre, Liverpool & Glasgow  
"POLYPHEMUS" 1st Apr. Genoa, Havre, Liverpool & Glasgow  
"HELLEPHON" 20th Apr. Genoa, Havre, Liverpool & Glasgow  
"DEE-TEES" 15th May Genoa, Havre, Liverpool & Glasgow

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"KOBE & YOKOHAMA" 10th Mar. Victoria, Vancouver & Seattle  
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"TYNDARUS" 1st Apr. Victoria, Vancouver & Seattle

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"HESUS" 31st Apr. New York, Boston & Baltimore

**PASSENGER SERVICE.**  
"HECTOR" 22nd Feb. Singapore, Marseilles & London  
"AENEAS" 3rd Apr. Singapore, Marseilles & London  
"SARPEDON" 18th Apr. Singapore, Marseilles & London  
"PATROCLUS" 16th May Singapore, Marseilles & London  
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**INWARD MAIIS.**

From	Per	WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 22.
Calcutta and Straits		Hosang
Straits		Van Heutsz
THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 23.		
Straits		Mirzapore
Europe via Negapatam letters only		
London		
26th Jan.		Kalyan
Japan		Talamba
Shanghai and Amoy		Luchow
FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 24.		
Canada, U.S.A., Japan & Shanghai		Emp. of Russia
Japan & Shanghai		Katori Maru
Shanghai & Europe via Siberia		Nellor
MONDAY, FEBRUARY 27.		
Europe via Negapatam. Paper only		
London		
Jan. 26		Norviken
TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 28.		
Japan and Shanghai		General Metzinger
SUNDAY, MARCH 4.		
Straits		Suwa Maru.

**OUTWARD MAIIS.**

For	Per	WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 22.
Shanghai		Calcutta Maru 3.30 p.m.
Straits		Morioka Maru 3.30 p.m.
Sam Shui and Wuchow		Tai Hing 4.30 p.m.
THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 23.		
Amoy and Formosa via Swatow		Deli Maru 8.30 p.m.
Manila, Australia & New Zealand via Thursday Island—due Thursday Island 5th Mar. Registration 8.45 a.m. Letters 9.30 a.m.		Mishima Maru
Amoy via Swatow		Van Heutsz 1.30 p.m.
Swatow		Hydrangea 2.30 p.m.
Shanghai and Europe via Siberia		Huapeh 2.30 p.m.
Japan		Kalgan 5 p.m.
FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 24.		
Swatow, Amoy and Foochow		Hai Hong Noon
Straits, Ceylon, India, Mauritius, E. & S. Africa, Aden, Egypt & Europe via Marseilles—due Marseilles, 25th Mar. K.P.O.: Registration 4.30 p.m. Letters (26th Feb.) 9 a.m. G.P.O.: Registration p.m. Letters 4.30 p.m. G.P.O. Registration 4.15 p.m. Letters 5 p.m.		Katori Maru
Shanghai		Sin Kiang 5 p.m.
Amoy		Hosang 5 p.m.
SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 25.		
Swatow		Chakang 5 p.m.
Manila		Emp. of Russia 8.30 p.m.
Amoy		An King 5 p.m.
SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 26.		
Swatow, Amoy & Formosa		Hozan Maru 9 a.m.
Bangkok via Swatow		Kalgan 9 a.m.

Correspondence bearing year's name only.

Printed and published for the proprietors, The Newsprint Enterprise, Ltd., by Grawes William of Cape Business, managing editor, at 3A, Wyndham Street, Hong Kong.

**REDS IN BRITAIN.**

Establishment of Communist Newspaper.

**MOSCOW RESOLUTION.**

Maximum Number Of Reds For Next General Election.

Moscow, Yesterday. The establishment of a Communist daily newspaper in Britain and the establishment of a fund for it are among the recommendations embodied in a resolution of the executive committee of the Communist international dealing with the "British question."

According to the newspapers, the resolution urges on the British Communist party the need for stronger and firmer action as an independent party, suggests the necessity for the maximum possible number of Communist candidates at the next General Election and urges the need of opposing the labour and the T.U.C. candidates.—Reuter.

**SIZE DOUBLED.**

**HOME INDUSTRIES FAIR.**

**A PERMANENT FEATURE.**

London, Yesterday. The Duke and Duchess of York visited the four miles of stalls arranged in avenues at the London section of the British Industries Fair, which is now open.

The King and Queen paid a visit to the fair to-day and on Thursday they will visit Birmingham to inspect the section of the fair which has been opened there in what is claimed to be the largest hall in the world.

The big exhibition fair out-dances its predecessor in scope.

The London fair has doubled its size since last year.

**FOREIGN BUYERS.**

Foreign buyers were present in large numbers yesterday, and it is stated that orders were actually placed in Birmingham amounting to £4,000,000.

Manufacturers now regard the fair as a permanent feature of the industrial life of the country.

The Government dinner to mark the opening of the fair was held last night and the Duke of York, who was guest of honour of the fair, gave expression of his faith in the future which competent observers believe hold favourable prospects of continued trade improvement.

Two factors that supported these forecasts were the satisfactory harvests, particularly in Europe, and the absence of violent fluctuations in foreign exchanges, which had now been achieved. Another encouraging factor was that the peoples of the Empire were becoming conscious of unity of purpose and interest in imperial matters.—British Wireless Service.

**TO AUSTRALIA.**

**FLIGHT OF SEVERAL RECORDS.**

**HINKLER'S PROGRESS.**

London, Yesterday. Growing interesting is being displayed in the progress of Captain Hinkler as he approaches the objective of his great solo flight from Croydon to Australia.

Friends in London acquainted with his plans anticipate that he will attempt the long hop of 1,000 miles from the Eastern extremity of Java to Timor to-morrow, and if this is successfully accomplished there will remain only the final stage of 600 miles to Port Darwin. This section is, however, since normal difficulties are liable to be increased by foul weather for the rainy season now prevails.

If Australia is reached by Thursday the whole journey will have been accomplished in 17 days.

He has already established several records on this flight and the newspapers pay high tribute to his skill in linking Java with London in less than 14 days. The mail steamer takes 38 days for the journey.—British Wireless Service.

**GIRL KILLED.**

A young Chinese boat girl was killed yesterday as the result of a collision between a fishing junk and a sampan in the vicinity of Stanley.

**EMPIRE AVIATION.**

The Part Hong Kong May Play.

**COMMERCIAL LINES.**

Interesting Lecture At City Hall Yesterday.

Under the aegis of the Hong Kong General Chamber of Commerce, a lecture was delivered at the City Hall yesterday by Mr. R. Vaughan-Fowler on "The prospects of commercial aviation in the Far East."

The lecturer, who is the Adjutant of the Kai Tak Aerodrome, was introduced by the Hon. Mr. D. G. M. Bernard, who referred to Mr. Vaughan-Fowler's record in aviation matters. In 1919 he was one of the first pilots in the Handley Page transport services and he had then spent two years in Japan with the Japanese Navy, studying and working for commercial aviation in Japan. Since then he had been particularly interested in the development of commercial aviation for the past five years he had been in the Royal Air Force.

Imperial Airways, Ltd.

The lecturer, who received a hearty welcome, reviewed the progress of aviation from the memorable attempt of the Wright brothers twenty-six years ago. He sketched its development through out the war years and to the utilization of the war-bombers and fighters for commercial purposes in the years immediately following. These war machines were, however, costly to operate and there was considerable competition with the French, Dutch and other services. A momentous decision was then taken by the British companies operating the commercial lines and as a result the British Imperial Airways, Ltd., was formed, the resources of all the Companies in Britain being pooled for the purpose, the obsolete war machines were scrapped at considerable loss and new machines were constructed enabling running costs to be reduced. The result was seen in that whereas before the cost of a flight to Paris had been £25 it was now £4 15s.

The lecturer dealt with experiments which had been conducted to evolve the most suited engine and stated that the choice eventually fell on the triple engined aeroplane as the soundest commercial position, this proving economy of running and greater reliability. With such machines, a trip to Shanghai against the teeth of the North-East Monsoon at this time of year could be accomplished at between 80 and 90 miles an hour after making due provision for wind resistance.

Hong Kong As Base?

Referring to aviation as it affected Hong Kong, the lecturer said that he thought the typographical features of China limited the choice at present to sea-boats. Hong Kong Harbour was ideal for a seaplane service along the Coast. Reliability was the first thought to enter the mind, and he believed that they could expect this in a British engine. Crashes were a rare occurrence, and he thought that these could be minimised still further not only with recent improvements as for instance, the slotted wing device, but also with an adequate weather-reporting service.

Quoting statistics to illustrate this point, the lecturer proceeded to say that newspapers made a sensation of aeroplane crashes and unduly influenced the minds of the public against flying, because they could get more news out of it and sell more papers, he was told. (Laughter.) He outlined the easy stages that would be accomplished by airship travel on the present projected trunk line to India and Australia, with Singapore possibly being eventually brought into the scheme. In which case, it was but another step to connect up Hong Kong to this Empire air route.

Links in the Chain.

Their part of this link would take them to Indo-China, where it would be impossible owing to the presence of high barrier of mountains, to have a straight line to Rangoon or Calcutta. But there was in contemplation a French aeroplane service to be based at Saigon, and from Saigon to Bangkok and Singapore it was a natural and incidental stage in the development of local aviation services. He thought that such aviation facilities as had been extended to French airmen in India called for

**"SECURITY."**

Proposal Of A Local Pact.

**GENEVA DISCUSSION.**

Lord Cunhenden Outlines British Views.

London, Yesterday. Lord Cunhenden, expressing the British view at the first meeting at Geneva yesterday of the Arbitration and Security Committee, welcomed the remarks of President Benes in his introductory memorandum that "the committee creates a measure of security which needs to be appraised at its full value." The fact that the covenant could be applied in the majority of cases to prevent war was a fundamental one to be recognised by the committee.

Lord Cunhenden said he entirely approved of the proposal for a local security pact which the president had stated must be regarded at the moment as the only practical form of a supplementary guarantee for nations which consider the covenant inadequate.

The Government thought the Locarno treaties offered the best model which it could hope to follow. He (Lord Cunhenden) thought the Finnish Government's proposal for financial aid to the state which was a victim of aggression was regarded by the British Government as a great inducement to the preservation of peace quite apart from its value after an outbreak of war. Great Britain was prepared to support this proposal. Lord Cunhenden also paid a tribute to the Swedish draft agreement which, he suggested, might be acted on as a basis of discussion.—British Wireless Service.

**COOLIE'S DEATH.**

A coal coolie was killed yesterday whilst coaling the Norwegian ss. "Tonga" at the Kalian Mining Administration's wharf at Laichikok.

Receiving serious injuries to his right leg, a coolie living at Shamshuipo was yesterday removed to the Government Civil Hospital from the Peak.

reciprocation on the part of French Indo-China in the event of their territory being brought within the scheme.

The lecturer remarked that one of the most important preliminary tasks in connection with the development of commercial aviation was obtaining international agreement as to the use of the air so that the most suitable routes would not be barred because of local objections to aeroplanes of other nations flying over particular territories.

Dealing with a China coast-wise air-mail service, Mr. Vaughan-Fowler traced by means of a map, the natural route which this would take to include such stopping places as Foochow, Swatow, Amoy and Shanghai. He pointed out the advantages of travel to Shanghai, Peking and Hankow, by aeroplane. He estimated charges for an aeroplane trip to Shanghai at \$170 per head. At first sight this might appear to be high when compared with steamer fares, but was well worth the expenditure in view of the immense saving of time.

Rates of Charges:

Other charges were computed thus:

For merchandise: 10 cents per lb. for 100 miles.

For Letters: One cent per ounce for the same distance. A letter to London would be carried at the rate of a dollar. His experience was that as transportation became steadier with increasing support, the rate would even decrease.

In conclusion, the lecturer appealed for the support of the Government and of the British Empire generally in backing commercial aviation. More particularly could this support be evidenced by the provision of proper landing places and the provision of effective meteorological services.

After thanking Mr. Vaughan-Fowler for his interesting lecture, the Chairman said that the lecturer would be glad to supply further information on the subjects raised on application to him either at the Kai Tak aerodrome or through the Secretary of the General Chamber of Commerce.

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Based on the sensational novel of the same name.